THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

THE TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOGI'S SARASWATI MAHAL.

CONSISTING OF

ORIGINAL PIECES AND SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES OF MERIT, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A WORK CALCULATED TO DISSEMINATE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE AMONG ALL RANKS OF PEOPLE AT A SMALL EXPENCE,

BY

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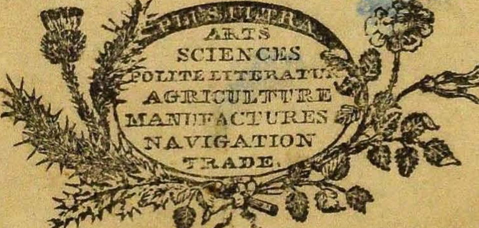
VOLUME TWELFTH.

APIS MATINÆ MORE MODOQUE. HORACE.



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THE TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOGI'S SARASWATI MAHAL.

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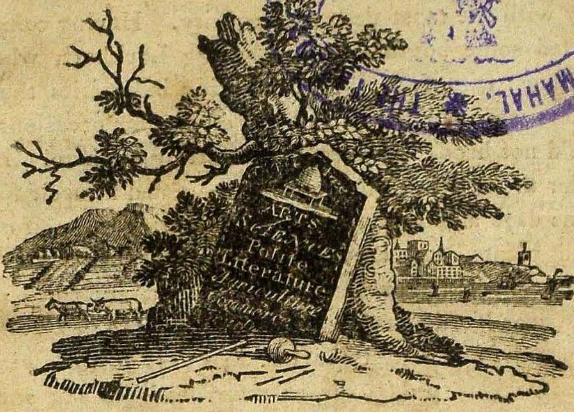
MAHARAJA SERFOGI'S SARASWATI MAHAL



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7. 1792.

MEMOIRS OF SIR W. LOCKHART, OF LEE,

COMMONLY CALLED AMBASSADOR LOCKHART.

With a portrait.

BIOGRAPHY may be termed the history of the human mind, by the study of which men may become acquainted with characters, and the different manner in which peculiar mental energies operate and influence the conduct of individuals.

Sir William Lockhart, commonly called ambaſsador Lockhart, descended from an illustrious line of ancestors, who had long acted a conspicuous part in Lanarkſhire, was the third son of Sir James Lockhart of Lee, one of the senators of the College of Justice, in the reign of Charles I. was born in 1621, died 1676.

The first incident that tended to mark the character of this singular man, occurred at a very early period of his life. He had been put under the care

of a pedagogue at Lanark, who exercised his authority with the most despotic severity. Having committed some boyish trespass, young Lockhart, who had been witness to the humiliating indignities that others were obliged to undergo on similar occasions, could not brook the idea of submitting to them. In order to shun this, he fled and concealed himself for some days among the woods, supporting himself on wild plants, and the occasional supply that some country people gave him. His father, informed of this, was highly incensed against him, raised a possé of people, and sent them out in quest of him, with the ferocious pedagogue at their head. They surrounded the wood as in a royal Asiatic chace; and being thus hemmed in on every side, he had no other way to escape, but by throwing himself from the top of a steep rock, many fathoms high, into a small river below. Regardless of peril, as he ever afterwards was, when it stood in the way of his designs, he hesitated not on this occasion, but took the leap, and, by a fortunate chance, a million, at least, to one, he escaped unhurt. No one durst follow him; and he made the best of his way to Leith. There he took shipping for Holland, where, unfriended and unknown, he supported himself by labour, without complaining for some time to any one.

At the time when this incident happened, he was in the thirteeenth year of his age. He returned home in the year 1636; but finding his situation there far from agreeable, he soon went to France, and entered into the service; where, by the singular gallantry, intrepidity, and judiciousness of his conduct in every enterprise that was intrusted to him, he was quickly ad-

vanced to the rank of captain of horse in that service. He once more returned home; but having met with a cold rebuff from Charles II. he remained in the country for some time, then resolved once more to go abroad. With that view he went by the way of London to visit his father, then a prisoner in the tower, and to obtain permifsion from the Protector to travel. Cromwell was no stranger to the uncommon talents of Mr Lockhart, and gave him the most flattering reception. Among many other favours he conferred, with a view to attach Mr Lockhart to his interest, he offered to bestow upon him for a wife, Mifs Robina Sewster, his own neice, a lady whose singular accomplifhments had attracted the warmest regards of this enterprising Scotsman. He accepted the offer with gratitude. He married this lady in April 1654, who continued his faithful companion during the remainder of his life.

Being now so nearly connected with the Protector, his character and talents became still better known to him, and Oliver knew well how to avail himself of these to the greatest advantage. He had been for some time at a lofs to find a proper person for discharging the important duties of ambafsador at the court of France, at that time the gayest, and, under the influence of Mazarine, the most intriguing cabinet in Europe. He was determined that his ambafsador fhould be received with the same honours, and treated with the same respect, as ever the royal ambafsadors had been; but, to effect this, great talents, and much addrefs were necefsary. Lockhart he found to be the very man, as if he had been created by heaven

for that purpose, and he resolved to invest him in that very delicate office.

It is the peculiarity of great minds, not only to be able to distinguifh great talents where they exist; but also to know how to proceed, so as to avail themselves of these talents in the highest degree. Cromwell, on this occasion, fhowed the vast superiority of his powers in this respect. He easily saw that the elegance of Sir William's person and addrefs, were well calculated to attract the admiration of a luxurious court, while the strength of his judgement was capable of penetrating the designs of the crafty priest, and the firm intrepidity of his mind enabled him to carry into execution whatever his judgement approved. He saw also that his candour and rectitude of mind were such as to render it, not only safe, but prudent, to entrust him with almost unlimited powers. He was therefore first knighted, and then by a commifsion dated the 30th of December 1655, appointed ambafsador to France, *with full powers to act in all things as he saw proper, and without any limitation of expence.*

By the brilliancy of his appearance, and the splendor of his retinue, he captivated the heart of the young monarch, and became the admiration of the court of France; while, by his quick conception, and delicate addrefs in the management of affairs, he soon obtained an ascendency over the cardinal minister, that no other person ever could boast of. France was at that time tired of war, and was upon the point of making peace; but this was by no means the wifh of the Protector. Sir William soon

prevailed on them to alter these intentions. He offered such a powerful afsistance from Britain, as would insure the capture of many valuable places from the Spaniard, all of which he stipulated fhould remain with France excepting Dunkirk. The treaty on these terms was concluded in July 1656. The Britifh forces under the command of able generals performed wonders. Many places were taken; and after some hesitation on the part of France, Dunkirk was attacked and compelled to surrender. Turenne with the French troops, took pofsefsion of it. The king of France and the cardinal entered the place; and during the intoxication of this succefs, they discovered evident intentions of paying little respect to the stipulations of the treaty, hoping to retain the place to themselves.

Cromwell, however, aware of the little reliance that was to be had to the words of that court, had suspected they would act in this manner, if ever it fhould be in their power; and therefore had provided against it. Having, by an adequate bribe properly administered, opened a correspondence with the French secretary of the council of war, he was very soon informed of the real intentions of the cabinet; and with his usual promptitude, he resolved to counteract their designs. He immediately dispatched a special mefsenger to Sir William, charged with instructions written with his own hand, well knowing that they would be instantly carried into execution in the most proper manner. Sir William no sooner received these, than he posted his army upon an eminence, detached from the French, and in such a manner that they could not be surprised; then taking

his watch in his hand, he repaired to the cardinal, and demanded in a peremptory manner, a written order for his being put in poſseſsion of Dunkirk, which if it was not complied with in an hour, he had orders to acquaint him, that his master looked upon the terms of the treaty as violated, and consequently made null; and in that case he ſhould retire to his camp, and take his measures accordingly, which would be to dispatch an expreſs to Don John, the Spaniſh general, to acquaint him that he was ready to act in conjunction with him against the arms of France. The cardinal thought this only a high mode of expreſsing himself; and aſked my lord ambaſsador in banter, whether his Excellency had slept well last night, or whether he was entirely awake? The ambaſsador answered him, that he believed he was awake at the time, and had never slept quieter in his life; and coolly drew out his instructions in the hand writing of the Protector. The astoniſhed cardinal, who knew Cromwell's decisive manner of acting, and which could not be baffled by any arts of fineſse, began now to listen with attention, and endeavoured to soften the peremptory demand of the ambaſsador, who, with the utmost coolneſs, replied, that he ſhould be obliged religiously to obey the injunctions of his master. His emnience perceiving his firmneſs, was compelled to give up the place within the allotted time. The French troops evacuated the town, and Sir William and his forces, took poſseſsion of the place in name of the Protector;—he himself having the honour of receiving the keys in person from Lewis.

This important place, which Sir William's own good conduct had acquired, was intrusted to his care; yet, though he had the government of it, and

was declared general of all the English forces in France, his civil department as ambassador was continued to him. He continued during the remainder of Oliver's protectorate, to have the same sway in the court of France; and it is certain no ambassador ever knew the French court better, nor was more feared and courted than him, both from the dread that nation stood in of Oliver, as well as their sense of the merit, attention, and watchfulness of his representative.

Sir William was continued in all his employments by Richard, and by the parliament of England, till the restoration of Charles II During this period several applications were made to him, in favour of the exiled monarch, which he always steadily refused to comply with; and of course was deprived of his command at the restoration. France, on this reverse of fortune, offered him a marshall's staff, which he nobly declined. He came over to England, not without apprehensions of severe treatment for the part he had acted under the protectorate; but by the intermediation of lord Middleton, and others, he was more graciously received than he expected; and was suffered to retire to his estate in Scotland. There he tried to introduce the English mode of agriculture, not entirely without success; but the country was not yet in such a state of tranquillity as to enable the people to avail themselves fully of these benefits. He was after some time called up to court, and once more appointed ambassador to France; and though not with an unlimited power of money as before, with very high appointments. He there acted with the same dignity and propriety as before, in as

far as regarded himself; but with diminished splendor, on account of the unsteady meanness and duplicity of the prince, his employer.

The embassies, the military transactions, and the private anecdotes of this truly great man, would fill several volumes if they were all collected together; and altogether would form a monument highly honourable to the memory of a man, who, in innumerable trying situations, was always found to act with an integrity, a coolness, an intrepidity, and a Christian disposition of mind, that never admitted of even an imputation of blame. During the varied transactions that occurred in those turbulent times, he espoused different sides, as circumstances seemed to point out as proper; but never was suspected to vary from mean or interested motives, and therefore he continued to be respected by all. He was upon the whole, one of the greatest characters as a soldier and negociator, that ever Britain produced.

FROM ISABELLA TO ALBERT. LETTER III.

Dear Brother,

I have now got a new piece of information to communicate to you, that I cannot defer one moment. I expect in a short time to be able to write to you like a *philosopher*.—But I must not waste my paper with idle observations;—I have more to say than will fill it all; so I must write small! small!—just as if I were to write the Lord's prayer in the size of a shilling.

We had a visit yesterday from Mrs Bruhl, a most extraordinary woman!—She has so much life,—so much

vivacity,—so much good humour,—so much wit,—and so much kindneſs!—And these different qualities come to strike one, succeſsively, in such quick rotation, that I think it is impoſsible to see her, for the first time, and not be confounded by a crowd of contradictory ideas that preſs upon my mind. I had never seen her before, and therefore put on my prim airs; but ſhe was so frank,—so obliging,—so kind, that I recovered myself in a moment, and found myself as much at ease with her in five minutes, as I ſhould have been with some others in five years. What chiefly attached me to her, was the interest ſhe took in poor me. She led me about with her every where,—inquired into my situation with so much earnestneſs, and with such a kind sort of sympathetic interest,—and so heartily hated the boarding school!—and so warmly admired all this family, that I could have taken her into my heart. Methought I felt it open, as if it were to receive her, and hold her fast—Yet, after all, I feel myself still more tenderly attached to dear, dear Mrs Drury! who, to goodneſs that has no parallel, unites the mildest manners, and the gentlest complacency of disposition.—She is certainly the best woman that breathes!

Mrs Bruhl seems to have a more active, or if you will, a more restleſs state of mind. Her thoughts are rapid; her eyes expreſs an eager kind of emotion, that, if I were not convinced of the goodneſs of her heart, from the character given of her by Mrs D. as well as her kindneſs to myself, I ſhould not have thought her impreſsively engaging. Mrs D. tells me ſhe has come through such scenes of distreſs as

would have broken the heart of half a dozen other women; but ſhe still retains her vivacity; and in very trying situations has acted in the most exemplary manner. I am persuaded that even you, with all your knowledge of the human character, would think ſhe was an original, the like of whom, in all respects, you had never met with.

It was not long before ſhe discovered that I had a philosophical brother, who was the idol of my affection. My little companion, Mary, who is an arch little monkey when ſhe meets with a proper opportunity of displaying her humour, rallied me in her own peculiar way, about the anxiety I discovered to find out some objects in natural history for "my *deer dee—eer bro—ther!*" ſhe told of the weeds that I had gathered on the hills, which I stored up with as much care as rare articles, and which ſhe had discovered to be the most common things. "We have been hunting," says ſhe to Mrs B. "these three weeks for some *non descript* vegetable or animal, in vain. Pray do, dear Mrs Bruhl, help us to something of that sort, otherwise poor Isabella will fall into the dumps, and we ſhall get nothing but hums and hahs from her for a month to come."

'O!' says Mrs B. 'you have come in the luckiest moment you ever could have hit upon; for on my way hither yesterday, I fell in with a brute that is not, I believe, at all known in Scotland. It is quite peculiar to England, where it is so exclusively *indiginous*, that it cannot live, I am told, for any length of time any where else. It is a most singular creature; and what is most surprising, though it be

quite common in England, it never yet has had a place in Pennant's zoology, nor any other book on natural history that I know of. But Pennant, you know, is a Welſhman, and this animal is equally a ſtranger to Wales as to Scotland.

Account of the SQUEYEYER, a singular non descript animal found in England.

'You may tell your brother, my dear Isabella, that there is an animal, which is known in Yorkſhire by the vulgar name of *squeyeyer*, of a very singular nature. It participates both of the monkey and the bear. Its form greatly resembles the monkey; and naturalists will certainly aſsign it a place among the *simia* tribe: but it has not the light sportive disposition, so characteristic of that tribe of animals. It is rough, awkward, clowniſh, and obstinate, like the bear; and though, under a persevering master, it may be made to dance, like its kindred bear, yet, like it too, its awkward distortions, and rude motions, rather excite laughter, than any other sensation. This creature is exceſsively fond of fruit; and when it is young it can climb trees with great agility; so that when a parcel of these young cubs break into an orchard, they commit the most terrible depredations. As they grow older, however, they are leſs fond of climbing trees, and are seldom seen upon them. But at all periods of their life, like its brother monkey, this awkward creature is exceſsively fond of getting upon horseback; and when once fairly mounted upon a good horse, he sticks to it like a bur, and drives it on with the utmost fury, through thick and thin, regardleſs of every thing. When he is in

these mad frolics, every creature smaller than his horse must take care to keep out of his way, otherwise he would ride them down without hesitation. Fortunately this animal is endowed with a strong voice, which, when exerted, has a sound compounded as it were between that of the beagle and the afs; and being deprived of the power of keeping silence when in violent motion, like the wild geese in their flight, he is easily recognised, by his hallooing, at a considerable distance; so that peaceable people being thus forewarned, have time to get out of his way. Had it not been for this bountiful provision of nature, it is hard to say what mischief he might have done in his wild rambles through the country.

'This animal undoubtedly belongs to the clafs *mammalia*, and is clearly *omnivorous*, (Mrs B. has these hard words as ready as I have if's or and's.) He greedily devours flefh, and fifh, and fowl of all kinds, as well as fruits, and seeds, and roots, and garden plants of every sort that come within his reach; and he is so exceedingly fond of honey, that he commits sad havock among the bee hives, in the district he inhabits, every year. He is also desperately fond of tobacco; and is so greedy of strong drink, that, when he can obtain it, which he in general contrives to do somehow or other very frequently, he seldom quits it while he is able to stand or move in any way. As this creature is of the gregarious kind, they generally are found together in troops of five or six, when they have any enterprise in view; and when thus afsembled, if they can get accefs to a well stored cellar, the destruction

they produce is inconceivable. On these occasions the noise they make, which is at all times great, becomes ten times greater; so that if a person who had never before seen this creature, was to look into their den on these occasions, he would certainly think he had got into Pandemonium, where the devils were at work, contriving how they might most speedily spread desolation and destruction around them. Fortunately this delirium does not last very long, and the bodily powers become weakened in proportion as the brain is inflamed; so that in a few hours the whole of this noisy tribe are entirely silenced; and they may be then seen lying, pell mell a-top of one another, wallowing in the most beastly state of intoxication and nastinefs.

'I have told you what these creatures like; you ſhould also know what they dislike. They are as remarkable in their antipathies, as in their likings. They have a mortal ill will at books; and if ever they get accefs to a library, they tear out the leaves, and scatter them about, or apply them to the most ignoble purposes. Sometimes, indeed, if the book contains ſhowy prints, especially if coloured, they will run over these with a stupid kind of gaze; but, as Shakespeare says, "There is no speculation in their eye." Like children, they admire baubles, and throw the most precious jewels away. My heart has often bled at seeing the devastations that had been committed by one of these brutes, which had accidentally got full pofsefsion of a library which had been carefully collecting for ages by a set of learned men. In a ſhort time, every thing that

was valuable in it, was torn, lost, or destroyed; and nothing but garbage and trafh remained behind.

'But if these creatures have an aversion to books, they have still a more decided antipathy to bookifh men; especially those in holy orders. They seem to pofsefs a power of scenting them out, as dogs do game; and they often ramble about in packs, in quest of them, with eagernefs, in the same manner as dogs do in quest of their natural prey; and wo be to the unfortunate clergyman who chances to fall in their way, at a distance from any afsistance! for although they do not tear him to pieces with their teeth, as other animals of a lefs ferocious appearance might do, they set up such a chattering of unintelligible gibberifh, and pursue him so closely wherever he goes, and at every fhort interval set up such a tremenduous roar of *afsinine* sounds, that the poor man, if he has never seen them before, is put into mortal terror. If, however, he has the prudence not to seem to hear or mind them, he may at last escape without harm; for, like every foolifh animal, they tire of teazing, when they do not perceive that their exertions have a power to teaze. This animal is, upon the whole, rather a stupid, noisy, and troublesome creature, than desperately wicked; and unlefs it be that they sometimes lay hold upon women in lone places, and are rude to them, but which they scarce ever attempt unlefs they have been first provoked by the gigling or light behaviour of these women, they seldom actually hurt, unlefs by accidental rencounter, any other creature. Indeed a firm minded man, of a philosophical turn, always overawes them,

when only one is by itself; but when a pack of these brutes are together, the monkey anticks of one raises the spirits of the others to such a degree, that there is no other resource but silence to escape from them.

'But of all their antipathies, that which they have against the fox is the greatest; and this rage has a sort of periodical paroxysms. It generally breaks forth with great fury every year, about the beginning of winter, and continues with intermifsions till the spring. On these occasions, you may see troops of these creatures afsemble together, like the gathering of lapwings before they leave us in autumn, on purpose to search for foxes wherever they can be found. When going on such expeditions, they seize the fleetest horses they can find; and they have also the art of training up a kind of dog to afsist them. At that season they will think nothing of running forty or fifty miles from their native haunts in search of prey; and when they discover a fox, they set up such a halloo, and ride with such ungovernable fury, that you would think as many devils had escaped from the infernal regions, and were set a scampering through this globe. If, after long fatigue, they kill the fox, the poor animal is carried in triumph to the nearest den they can find, where they give a loose to their joy, and indulge in every excefs that their nature is capable of.

'I might mention several other characteristic marks of this brute; but these traits will be sufficient to enable your brother to know if any of them have ever been seen in your country. I have heard

that some of them have now and then wandered over the borders, to try if they could find ſhelter in Scotland. But you have so many universities there, the profeſsors are so learned, the clergy are so zealous, and the laity have all got such a smattering of letters, that these stragglers have been immediately scouted, and so hunted from place to place, that they have been forced to take ſhelter again in England, where the climate seems to be more congenial to them than any where else; and where the people, having been long accustomed to see them, do not bear such an extreme antipathy to them, as in Scotland. Your brother, who is a philosopher, will probably be able to give me better information on this head than I have yet got. I once heard that there was a creature that is probably a variety of the same genus, but differing in many respects from that above described, which was once very common in Scotland; and there known by the name of LARD, or LAIRD, or some such name, which is either extirpated, or much degenerated of late. If your brother will oblige me with a genuine account of that creature in return for this, I ſhall account it a particular favour; for my ideas, from the imperfect accounts I have heard of it, are very indistinct.'

Here ends the legend of Mrs B. which I took down from her own mouth, who spelled the cramp words for me herself; and with it ends my paper, so farewell for the present. Yours, ISABELLA.

OBJECTS OF PURSUIT, COMPATIBLE WITH THE DUTIES OF A CLERGYMAN.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

THE clergy in general, and I in particular, ought to think ourselves much obliged to you for the opportunity which you give us, by means of your miscellany, of giving vent to effusions, which would otherwise very probably be as little known as our sermons; and ſhare their ignominious fate at our death. The situation of a clergyman in the country, (to which claſs I myself belong,) is, like every other situation, in some respects enviable; and in others to be regretted. The leisure and independence which he enjoys, or may enjoy, are advantages which cannot be too highly prized. But, on the other hand, the few spurs which he has to ambition and industry,—the difficulties under which he labours, with regard to conversation and other means of improvement,—and the impoſsibility often of making himself known, are disadvantages which he must often feel. Whether the advantages or the disadvantages preponderate, will depend much upon the characters and dispositions of individuals. I, who am fond of retirement, and who mix in society, rather as a philosopher to be informed, than as a man of the world to enjoy, do not hesitate to pronounce in favour of my situation. The light in which we ought to consider ourselves is a very flattering one: it is that of persons appointed by government, to form, by means of their

instructions and their example, virtuous, and consequently good citizens. In order to give efficacy to our instructions, we are rendered independent: it is our own fault, therefore, if we are not respected and happy.

The world, however, seems to require of us something more than a bare attention to the duties of our office. We have many hours not necessarily devoted to them. How ought these hours to be employed? There are many plans which we can adopt. Agriculture is a pursuit in which most of us engage; and I acknowledge myself favourable to it under certain limitations. Our superior education, by enabling us to become acquainted with the theory of the art, may render this pursuit useful to ourselves, and to our parishioners. But if it be engaged in with any other view than as an innocent and profitable *amusement*; if buying and selling, and the anxieties of a farm, shall ever *take the lead* in our character and conversation, then I think we descend below our rank; and justly lose our respectability as *clergymen*. I think we ought to be farmers therefore on a small scale;—that our farms ought never to be larger than what we can manage in the course of a morning or an evening walk, which our health would render necessary at any rate. Another pursuit, to which I am still more partial, is *gardening*, and *the ornamenting of our manses and glebes*. This has a happy influence on the spirits and the temper. It operates on the imagination and the taste like the view of a fine landscape. A neat and ornamented entry to a manse, by means of shrubbery, and flow-

ers, and gravel walks, disposes me to enter it with the pleasing expectation of finding taste and elegant enjoyment within. I am not much acquainted with the private life of *Claude de Lorraine*; but I have seen some of his works; and I ſhould be disappointed if I ſhould hear that it was not under the general influence of elegance, and taste, and innocence. This is certainly the tendency of that love of rural beauty which characterises his productions; and it is the tendency of the art which I am recommending. But this also ought to be rather an *amusement* than a *buſineſs*.

Another pursuit nearly allied to this is *botany*. All are not equally qualified for its laborious investigations; but those who are, would find in it an inexhaustible store of improving and elegant enjoyment. A collection of the plants in a pariſh, accurately made, might throw much light on this branch of natural history. It is by dividing great undertakings into small parts, (when this is practicable,) that their progreſs is most effectually promoted. The statistical account of Scotland would not have been so full and satisfactory, if this had not been done.

But though these, Sir, be a few of the numerous ways in which a clergyman in the country may paſs much of his time, with pleasure to himself, and advantage to others; yet he ought to have other pursuits which he can conduct *within doors*. In ſhort, a clergyman ought to be a *literary character*; and this corresponds best with what ought to be the principal buſineſs of his life. *Metaphysics*, *history*, *claſsical learning*, are so many roads in a most ex-

tensive field, where he may gather both *flowers* and *fruits*. Perhaps no clafs of men, who enjoy such favourable opportunities of knowledge, are at lefs pains to make themselves acquainted with the *theory* of their profefsion than clergymen. It is the *understanding* and the *heart*, which they are employed in cultivating ; yet *psychology* is a science which we do not consider as very necefsary to study. We receive, to be sure, the rudiments of it at the university; but, as if this were enough, we too often think little about it afterwards. We collect, or we compose, a certain number of sermons, which we seldom change. Thus our labour becomes in some measure *mechanical ;* but public discourses ought surely to be suited to the progrefs of improvement in a country. At the same time, therefore, that we study *life* and *manners*, many of our leisure hours might be usefully employed in the study of this infant science. We may, indeed, succeed tolerably well without it, in the same manner as a practical farmer may succeed, without having read *lord Kaims's gentleman farmer*, or attended *Dr Coventry's lectures ;* but an accurate knowledge of the theory of our art would surely be useful, and enable us at once to benefit our hearers, and to promote the progrefs of the science. Nay, I am convinced, (however strange the observation may appear to many,) that this very study would throw more light on the efsentials of Christianity, than all the dry and rigid systems of divinity, in defence of which contending parties have so often anathematized one another. Christianity is founded on the nature and faculties of

man: it is suited to them, and calculated to improve them. The better therefore these faculties are understood, the more succefsfully will its precepts and doctrines be applied to their cultivation. We ſhould not then hear of cold and abstract disquisitions, on uninteresting points of controversial theology; but our duty would be explained, as naturally arising from the powers which we pofsefs; it would be confirmed by the sacred precepts of religion; and the practice of it enforced by its awful and commanding sanctions. It was in the retirement of a country manse, that Dr Reid laid the foundation of that fame which he so justly acquired, as a *metaphysical* writer; Dr Robertson, I believe, in a similar situation, commenced his brilliant carreer in *history*; and I think I have heard that Dr Blair did the same in the department of belles lettres.

The inclosed contains two extracts from a work publiſhed some years ago by Dr Zimmerman of Hanover, which you can insert in your *Bee*, if you think proper. I beg leave to aſk you, or any of your correspondents, through the medium of your miscellany, whether the work be translated into Engliſh; I mean the doctor's publication, in four volumes octavo, on *Solitude*. If I am not mistaken, a *smaller work* of his on the same subject has been translated; but I believe from a *French translation* by M. Mercier. I acknowledge I have been disappointed in finding so little in the *Bee*, on the subject of *foreign literature*; I direct my attention sometimes that way. If you accept of my correspondence, I have a few articles, which I pick up from time to time, at your

service: in the mean time an acknowledgment of the receipt of this, will oblige, Sir, yours, &c *.

EIN LIEBHABER.

THE TRAVELLER. No. I.

For the Bee.

THE advantages to be derived from travelling have been already so often pointed out, that it would be impertinent in me to attempt saying any thing new upon the subject. When they go abroad, the most of our countrymen are too young to digest what they see or hear, and are more eager after amusements, than solicitous to improve themselves by making observations on the various humours, habitudes, and modes of life of the inhabitants; or on the climates, laws, and governments of the countries which they visit.

If we consider how few there are capable of reflecting on these matters, even in advanced life, we will not be surprised at the small number that are benefitted by it. But surely a man of parts will reap more advantage from judicious travelling, than from any other mode of instruction.

John William Spencer is a person of this description. Born to a plentiful fortune in the west of

* The Editor will be much obliged to this writer, for future communications. Some foreign correspondents from whom much with good reason was expected have proved unfaithful. Others are now coming forward, and there is reason to hope they will increase; but the number of communications that prefs for insertion give little room for other articles, many of which have been long postponed. There is reason to believe that the *Solitude* by Zimmerman is not translated.

England, he had the advantage of a better education than is generally bestowed on those of his rank. His natural taste for study and reflection, was directed and encouraged by an indulgent father, who, at the age of twenty-five, sent him on the grand tour, with an allowance that enabled him to move in the first circles at Paris, Versailles, Rome, Venice, Vienna, Bonne, Cologne, Brufsels, and the Hague.

Hitherto he had been conversant only with persons in high life: but not considering these as the best specimens, or most faithful representatives of national character, he determined to make himself acquainted with the manners of the middling and lower clafses; and immediately after his return to England he set out on a new tour on foot and unattended. In this plight he rambled over England, Scotland, Italy, France, and Spain; and he has often declared that this last excursion afforded him more rational amusement than that which he made in a much more exalted sphere. He kept no regular journal; but when any thing remarkable occurred, he wrote it down on loose fheets of paper. Eighteen of these are now in my pofsefsion. It is needlefs for me to take up your time in telling how they came there; but if you think they deserve a place in your Bee, I will send you copies of them in the order they are tied up; for they make no narrative, and are no way connected; and, as they chance to lead us, we must jump at once from England to Spain, or from Italy to Scotland.

Extracts from the journal, containing the opinions and observations of JOHN WILLIAM SPENCER.

Leiceister.———

A HEAVY ſhower chaced me into the tollkeeper's house this morning, where the people were so civil that I was pleased the rain furniſhed an excuse for prolonging my stay. A greasy fellow of a stocking maker came down stairs to dinner. A very plain batter pudding was all their fare. The good woman gave me to understand her huſband had gone to market, and that they always dined poorly that day. She regretted my ill luck, and with much natural civility aſked me to taste with them. I thanked her, and took up a spoon. A beautiful servant maid sat at our backs.

Notwithstanding that fate has placed me in a very desirable situation, I am sometimes so ungrateful as to repine at my lot; but two or three comparisons of my situation with that of others, generally reconcile me to my own, and send me home to myself well pleased. My heart sickens when I see the Iriſhman at his potatoes, the Scotsman at his porridge, the Engliſhman at his batter pudding and his broth, and the Frenchman at his brown bread and garlic. The rich, in excuse for their want of feeling, say that happineſs in this life is more equally distributed than is commonly imagined. If, they add, the rich have more numerous, and more sensible feelings of pleasure, so have they likewise of pain. I ſhall never try to persuade any poor man, who with hard labour earns a precarious and scanty meal of coarse

fare, that he has as much reason to be satisfied with his lot in this world as I have. He might, perhaps, be unable to answer the arguments I brought to prove him happy, but he would not be convinced.

It gives me the spleen to hear people exclaim against the increase of luxury, and the alteration in the mode of living now-a-days. The labourer lives as well as the farmer did forty years ago; the farmer as well as the man of little fortune; and so on; and is not this so much the better for them all? But all cry out most loudly against the rank immediately below them, without recollecting that they have changed their own mode in nearly the same proportion. Labourers in the country do not live so well as those in London, where they have better wages. This is not surprising. But it is surprising that people say that labourers in London have high wages because they live well. It is mistaking the cause for the effect; and this is done every day. That beloved king, Henry IV. of France, wished to see the time when every man in his kingdom should have a fowl in his pot on a Sunday.

In the beginning of their empire, the Romans far exceeded in riches, magnificence, and refinement, any thing that modern ages can boast of. I have often wondered how they catched all those snipes and curlews that their emperors were so fond of. I forget how many thousand curlews brains Vitellius had in one dish at supper: he certainly paid well for them, as in less than a year he spent upwards of seven millions sterling on eating and drinking. His brother Lucius

Vitellius gave him an entertainment at which were two thousand different dishes of fish, and seven thousand of fowl. Compared to this how little does that appear which the prince of Wales gave in the gardens of Carleton house in honour of Mr Fox's election in 1784 at which there were only two thousand dishes in all! Peaches sold at 4s. 10d. a-piece; peahen eggs at 3s. 2¾d.; doves at L. 1 : 12 : 3½ the pair; and fish at a price almost beyond belief. The mullet, which rarely weighs more than two pounds, was sold from L. 48 : 8 : 9 to L. 64 : 11 : 8. I have not forgot that when the king of Denmark was in England in 1768, eighty guineas a-day were allowed for the expence of his table at St James's: and this allowance was by many people thought extravagant. Caligula spent a thousand times that sum upon a supper; and there was more meat dressed in Mark Antony's kitchen at Alexandria, than in those of all the kings of modern Europe. Eight wild boars were roasted whole for a supper, at which there were not expected above a dozen of guests.

Soon after it became fair I set out in company with a chimney sweep, who had taken shelter at the toll as well as myself. I believe all mankind are nearly the same when born, and that the difference of the educations they receive, will account for the great inequality we observe amongst them in advanced life. I have conversed with persons of many ranks and professions, and I have found men of parts and information in them all. We walked very quickly to town, conversing very earnestly all the way. He had perceived me press a shilling upon the woman

for her pudding and civility, and behaved to me with great respect, which the waiter at the Three Cranes inn observed as we approached, and received me in a manner somewhat different from an ordinary traveller on foot. I ordered my companion a pot of the best ale, and called for a bottle of wine to myself; and with it before me, in a handsome parlour, at a comfortable fire, am I now sitting and writing the adventures and reflections of the day.

An innkeeper's life is a disagreeable one. He has tacitly entered into a contract with the public to entertain them at all hours; and he is often called at very unseasonable ones to fulfil his engagements. His house is not his own; his servants are abused; his furniture wasted; and his gain is too often not in proportion to the noise, riot, and confusion with which he is tormented.

A MORAL REFLECTION BY MIRA.

For the Bee.

In great cities, religion too often becomes only the effect of chance, and benevolence the capricious offspring of instinct. But from the bosom of the quarry,—from the wild blossoms of the field, arises the spirit of devotion and philanthropy.—A cultivated mind there feels the irresistible influence of nature pressing upon its faculties; and demand all their admiration, and all their powers. The self deified man, sinks to his proper rank in the universe, and exchanges exultation for the softer glow of gratitude and content.

POETRY.

TO MARIA, ON A RETROSPECT OF HER SINGING.

For the Bee.

AH! why Maria ſhould thy magic sounds
  Have broke the chain of happineſs and rest?
Why, as thou sung, ſhould mis'ry's fest'ring wounds
  Have baniſh'd peace for ever from my breast?

'Twas then, entranc'd in extacy divine,
  That Fancy drew thy features still more fair;
And lost in faithleſs transport made thee mine,
  Rewarding every pang of anxious care.

Till fate, relentleſs, woke me from my trance,
  For ever snatch'd me from my native place;
And, frowning, wither'd with destructive glance,
  Each smile that beam'd in Hope's celestial face.
While ev'ry fairy vision fled away,
And chang'd the summer scene, to darkneſs and dismay.

ARMINE.

ODE TO THE POPPY.

Oh! that I could steal one from the knowledge of my own miseries!

I.

KINDEST flow'r which first did grow
Where Lethe's drowsy waters flow;
Let Zephyr waft thy opiate breath,
Mild harbinger of peaceful death,
To lull this raging pang of grief,
And give each swelling throb relief.

II.

Mem'ry but renews my woe;
Come then, all thy aid bestow:
To my rudely tortur'd breast,
Grant the visionary rest,
  Whose leaden slumbers bleſs
  With calm *forgetfulneſs*,
So may heaven's kindest dews refreſh thy soil,
And mildest moon beams o'er thy slumbers smile.

III.

  Thy exhalations it is said,
Have wond'rous pow'r to lull the mind;
Can make it to its wretchedneſs resign'd,
  And o'er its woes *oblivion's* mantle spread.

Then on my head thy leaves profusely strew,
And bathe my parch'd lips with thy balmy dew.

IV.

Now, now, thy wild delirium I feel,
And all thy languors on my senses steal:—
But ah! I wake again,—the soothing dream is o'er,
And all those pangs return I felt before.
Short is the joy those anodynes supply;
  Morn comes, but brings again my woe,
Though morn, sweet flow'r, thy roscid tear may dry,
  Mine will for ever flow.

V.

I find that though thy poison fell,
Throws o'er the sense a torpid spell,
Yet thy enchantment steeped bowl,
Frees not from pain the sick'ning soul;
He who plies his thirsty lip,
Only a momentary ease can sip;
  Ineffectual is thy balm,
To heal the bleeding wounds of care,
  Sorrows beating breast to calm,
Or stop the oft descending tear.
Trifling to me has been thy hop'd relief,
Thou hast but *check'd*, not *cur'd* my still corroding grief,

ALOUETTE.

TO THE HOUSE SWALLOW.

HARMLESS tenant of the ſky,
Wheeling oft before my eye,
Welcome to this humble cot,
Here be fix'd thy summer lot.

Round my garden freely rove,
Choose the clay which swallows love;
Here's a straw,—and there's some woo-
Let thy nest be warm and full.

Thither guide thy chatt'ring mate,
Happy be your faithful state;
Share each others pain and joy,
Not a boy ſhall dare annoy.

Sons I have,—but not a stone
E'er ſhall cause a parent's moan;
Hurling from their peaceful nest,
Little folks by great opprest.

Harmleſs tenants of the ſky,
Male and female hither fly;
Welcome to this humble roof,
Here, my birds, is room enough.

ALMERINE

ARCTIC NEWS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

ALTHOUGH the news contained in this letter comes to you from a lower latitude than the north polar circle, still the title given to my former budget, containing some intelligence *really arctic*, may just do as well as any other, and may therefore stand now, and in future, at the head of the article containing our northern news.

Tartarian mulberry.

This first paragraph will serve as an answer to your queries concerning the *morus Tartarica*, or Tartarian mulberry tree.

Our distinguiſhed and liberal naturalist Dr Pallas, has written with much readineſs and pleasure to the Crimea, for seeds of it, wiſhing heartily that this little service, or any other which his very limited leisure permits, may tend to forward your well meant endeavours; but he is afraid that species of mulberry will not meet your expectation with regard to quickneſs of growth; as in that respect he does not think it has advantages over those you poſseſs already in Britain. However you will obtain in it a very hardy plant, well suited to the climate, and which the silk worm eats most readily: it never grows to a great height, and may be compared to the hawthorn in both that and constitution.

A curious volcanic production.

Much has been written and said in Britain on volcanic productions, since the able researches of Sir William Hamilton into the curious phenomena of the claſsic mountain Vesuvius, drew the attention of his countrymen to these

interesting and tremenduous objects of philosophic contemplation.

Of all the modifications of matter by subterraneous fire, one of the most curious in my opinion has been lately discovered by a son of profeſsor Laxman, inspector of our Siberian foſsils.

The younger Laxman discoverd on the coast of the sea of Ochotz, about twenty verst from the city of that name, a sort of conic hill, composed of a species of brittle calcined like substance, of a pale aſh colour; one side of it is stuck full, like pudding stone, of roundiſh semitransparent peebles of a whitiſh colour, and size of nuts; the other side is studded in the same manner with *opaque* reddiſh stones, affecting a similar form and magnitude. A more particular account of these will be found in my second table of stones which I mean also to send to you as a supplement to the first (when I can get it copied) and which will complete that branch of mineralogy as far as the confined bounds of such a plan will permit *. There you will find some experiments made on this curious matter by profeſsor Lovitz, son of the academician, flayed alive by the barbarian Pugatchef, for being a scholar, and above the degree of a peasant, the rank to which the levellers of that day meant to reduce the whole human species,—cruelly maſsacring every man, woman, and child, who fell in their way, supposed to contain a drop of superior blood in their veins, according to their view of the rights of man. So that neither a certain nation, nor a certain stay maker, have any title to plume themselves on a priority of disco-

* Along with many other valuable communications from this ingenious writer, the Editor has been favoured with a full and accurate table of gems, of the first and second orders, which will be presented to his readers as soon as the proper arrangements for printing it can be made; the continuation of this table is anxiously looked for every day, which will complete a very important subject.

very, as Pugatchef, in Rufsia, preceded them a dozen years at least; and if unsuccefsful attempts might be wanted, Jack Cade and Wat Tylor in England, preached and practised the same doctrine before their great grandfathers were born. So much for unfounded claims to priority in discovery, so justly reprobated in Britain, and which it certainly is every man's duty to refute when it falls in his way.

It may be necefsary to add to the ſhort notice given above, of the lefs destructive vomitings of the physical volcano on the coast of the sea of Ochotz, properly the subject of this article, that it appears from experiment made on both the containing and contained matter, on the concrete aſhes and peebles, that they resemble the frothing stone of Iceland and Hungary, mentioned by Born,(equally suspected of volcanic origins,) in the singular property of frothing in the fire, pofsibly from all three containing a portion of zeolite.

Arcticus.

SLIGHT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE LIFE OF THE CELEBRATED MR JOHN HENDERSON OF PEMBROKE COLLEGE, OXFORD.

This was one of the most extraordinary characters which have appeared upon the stage in modern times; and, like every other extraordinary person, his singularities attracted the notice of all who knew him, and excited the warmest approbation, or the severest censure, according to the circumstances in which the observers were placed with respect to him, and the peculiar ſketch of their talents, or bent of dispositions.

This singular person was born at Bellegarance, near Limerick, in Ireland, March 27. 1757, where his parents at that time accidentally happened to be. His father, Mr Richard Henderson, was then a preacher in connection with Mr John Wesley, and his mother is said to have been related to

one of the first families in Wales. Even in his infancy he was never known to cry; and his questions in his earliest years denoted strong intelligence.

He received part of his education in Mr John Wesley's school, at Kingswood, near Bristol; but at the age of twelve he taught Greek and Latin in the college of Treveka.

On his quitting Treveka, he returned to his father, who then resided at Kingswood, and kept a boarding school for some years. After this, he opened a house for the reception of insane persons, which he conducted with great reputation and succefs. In this last undertaking, the medical knowledge of his son was of great service to him; but he took no part in the management of the school. During his residence at Kingswood, his whole time was devoted to intense study, and the conversation of a few select friends.

In this state of retirement, he acquired the knowledge of Hebrew without any instructor, and in procefs of time learned, with astonifhing facility, almost all the oriental tongues. He read also the works of the best French, Italian, and German writers in the original languages; but his favourite objects of study at this time, were chemistry and medicine.

About the year 1781 he entered at Pembroke college, as a commoner, without appearing to have had any particular object in view, but that of prosecuting his literary pursuits, and availing himself of the many advantages which that famous university affords. Here he immediately rendered himself conspicuous, not only by his superior talents, but by the singularity of his appearance. The fafhion of his clothes was always different from that of other young men; his hair was neither powdered nor curled, but combed straight; he wore neither stock nor cravat, but tied his

band, if not on the bare neck, yet on his ſhirt collar; and his ſhoes were tied with strings, or fastened with very small iron buckles that appeared to be rusty.

In his scientific researches, his application was as intense as his curiosity was boundleſs. He slept but little, and that was generally in the day time; while the midnight, and the early hours of the morning, when not spent in company, were devoted to study. His knowledge extended almost through the whole circle of the sciences; and such were the wonderful powers of his mind, that he could converse, or rather deliver the most masterly diſsertations, in the most engaging manner, on subjects of divinity, ethics, metaphysics, medicine, chemistry, anatomy, law, politics, criticism, &c. &c.

To wonderful powers for conversation, he superadded a talent for good natured raillery, and a fund of exquisite humour that was peculiarly his own, and that never failed him. He read almost every curious and original work; and, like another Pascal, his memory retained almost all that he had read.

He had every treatise that could be procured on magic; and so prevalent was the opinion of his ſkill in this occult science with many, that a popular doctor, who is still living, and whose name, therefore, it may be proper to conceal, wrote a letter to Mr Henderson, informing him, that he was aſsured, from undoubted authority, he had the power of raising spirits, and therefore earnestly requested to be favoured with a specimen of his ſkill; for which purpose he told him, he was ready to meet him in any part of the kingdom. Henderson could not suppreſs a good natured smile on receiving this ludicrous epistle, and after having mentioned it to some of his intimate friends, returned the learned, but credulous doctor, such an evasive answer, as was calculated to leave him perfectly in doubt on the subject.

In the multiplicity of his pursuits he had attended also to physiognomy; and such was his ſkill in this science, before the books of the celebrated Lavater became popular, that it is much to be questioned, whether he was ever deceived in the judgement he formed of others. The face, the voice, and the air, disclosed the moving principle within; but it was by a combination of many particulars that he attained that knowledge. It is even alleged that he profeſsed to delineate the character from the hand writing. His knowledge of physic and the history of medicine, was very extensive; and he was deep read in metaphysics, from Hooker and Locke, even to Behmen and Swedenborg.

But it must not be supposed that he was the humble disciple of any writer whatever. He marked the weakneſses and vanity to which the human mind is prone; he saw the littleneſs of pride; he traced the errors of the understanding to their secret source; and learnt the wisdom of humility.

He made no one an offender for a word; but he loved, respected, and defended the good, the humble, and the pious, in every denomination of Christians. His ideas of the divine mercy were most simple and sublime.

To reconcile various contending sects, was a favourite theme with him; and he would often prove that the difference was merely nominal. But he laid no streſs on opinions that were unconnected with practice. He lived not for himself. His knowledge in divinity, law, physic, and chemistry, was applied for the benefit of others. He relieved the poor by his alms, and the sick by medicines. He defended the injured, and extricated the distreſsed.

The following anecdote is of undoubted authority. While he was at college, there was a dangerous putrid fever among the poor. He attended and nursed them himself; he gave them bark, and supplied them with port wine.

When he had expended all his money in this noble charity, and some of his patients were not recovered, he sold his Walton's *Polyglot Bible*, (the book of all others he most highly valued,) because it brought most ready money, and this also was expended for the poor and miserable. With some, who were more dangerously ill, he sat up all night to administer the medicines at proper times.

The reputation of genius and of learning, therefore, was by no means the only praise of this great man. He was meek, unaſsuming, benevolent, and kind; yet with the greatest modesty he combined the noblest independence of spirit, even from a child. Independence, I mean towards man; for he will become meanly dependent on the periſhing creature, who loses his sense of his dependence on the great Creator. He was too noble to flatter, and too discerning to be flattered. Yet when he entered that university which he loved, and where he breathed his last, that popularity followed him which he never would condescend to seek; he was courted, admired, and applauded.—Such was the supreme command which he had obtained over himself, that in the course of his life, in which provocations were not wanting, he was never once known to indulge any anger, to give vent to any malice, or to harbour any revenge. If at any time he aſsumed the appearance of displeasure, it was only at the discovery of meanneſs, treachery, and diſsimulation, which reproof might correct.

A mind thus large, and a heart thus warm, was capable of the purest friendſhip; and this bleſsing he imparted and enjoyed. He was discerning in his choice, and unſhaken in his attachment. He poſseſsed all the real warmth of friendſhip, without the pompous parade of it. It was his joy and delight to promote the happineſs, and to relieve the wants of others. For a friend he would ask a favour which he never would request for himself; and he felt

a zeal in defending the cause and the reputation of another which was totally unknown when he himself was injured. His friends were selected, not because they were rich, or noble, or learned ; but because they were simple, sincere, and benevolent.

Some time *before his change came*, he seemed perfectly dead to this world, and abstracted from man. Company could no more engage him. He avoided unprofitable converse and idle speculations. The early hour, and the frugal meal, prepared him for contemplation and study. He had a full and clear presentiment of his approaching dissolution ; and he seemed to withdraw himself from mortals, as he was soon to converse with higher beings.

He died, November 2. 1788, at Oxford, in the thirty-second year of his age, and was buried the 18th, at St George's, Kingswood. The immediate cause of his dissolution was an inflammation in the bowels.

In the state of imperfection to which mankind are doomed while on this earth, it is not to be expected that such singular virtues ſhould be poſseſsed without alloy. Indeed the same energy of mind that produces such high acquirements, in some measure of neceſsity leads to eccentricities of conduct, which cannot at all times admit of defence ; and the same susceptibility of soul that produces the most exalted virtues, is often the source of the most degrading weakneſses. It has become a proverbial expreſsion, that " great wits to madneſs are allied," and it is equally well known, that among the lower claſses of people at least, great talents, and diſsipated manners, are nearly synonymous terms. What a pity it is that Mr Henderson ſhould not have been an exception to this general rule : unfortunately he was not. He was probably drawn insensibly into those exceſses, by those very talents which they tended to debase.

From the improvement and delight which flowed from his conversation, wherever he went, or whatever party he joined, his company, almost unavoidably produced late hours. Every one knows, particularly at college, that frequent encroachments on the sober hours of rest must tend to promote excefs; from this, and other causes, in a word, he who was the wonder and admiration of all who knew him for some years before his death, frequently transgrefsed the bounds of temperance by the habitual vice of drunkennefs. Accustomed to spend the whole night, or the greater part of it, either in company, or in study, whatever friend he visited, like the unfortunate savage, he generally disturbed the economy of the family. If he found a companion who had any talents for conversation, of which he was extremely fond, it was almost impofsible to leave him; so eminently was he endowed with the various powers of arresting attention, communicating knowledge, and affording pleasure. This difsipated mode of life, doubtlefs, must have injured his constitution and accelerated his death.

When he studied medicine he tried the effects of various poisons on himself, in a very unjustifiable manner, that he might mark their progrefs, and, if pofsible, discover their antidotes; and his constitution was materially injured by such experiments. From his intense application and sedentary life, Mr Henderson soon became subject to lownefs of spirits, and extreme debility, with a tendency to putrid disorders. When the powers of nature sunk, therefore, under the constant exertions of the mind, he had recourse to opiates. These had a wonderful effect in producing temporary relief, in exhilarating his spirits, and banifhing the drowsinefs of the midnight

hour; but this left him still weaker and more relaxed. Many of his friends observed the injury which his constitution suffered, and strenuously recommended the use of port wine. He was prevailed on to take it; and at length what he had recourse to as a medicine, like thousands before him, he took by choice. Yet he never could give up his opiate draught, which was to him the grand restorative, and the chief cordial that banifhed sorrow, and left his mind to act with all its vigour.

He was so attached to this favourite medicine, that he at last took it so frequently, and in such quantities, that it impaired his faculties, at least for a time, caused epileptic fits, and produced all the appearances of intoxication. When he attended his poor patients also, he caught the disorder; and though relieved for a time, the putrid affection to which he was always subject, returned with violence. As a corrective, he drank more port than inclination could have led him to, and a little would disorder him; but still he could not refrain from *opium*.

Those who have ever fallen into the habit of substituting the delusive aids of art, for the healing powers of nature, know what painful exertions it requires to cast it off. With the unfortunate Henderson, perhaps, it was impofsible. To debar him from the social enjoyments of the midnight hour, and deprive him of books, would have been almost equivalent to the destruction of his existence; and yet, for some years before his death, his predominant desire could not, in either case, be gratified, without the afsistance of *wine* or *opiates*.

His friends lamented also that the singular quicknefs of his talents betrayed him into a habit of arguing rather for the sake of confounding others, than for ascertaining the truth. Thus he often knowingly propagated error. In his early youth, his ardent mind despised the slow but cer-

tain mode of acquiring knowledge by mathematical induction, and delighted to wander in the inchanting fields of metaphysical subtilties, so peculiarly calculated to embarafs his opponents, and please his self love. This may be called the opiate of the mind, which produces an enchanting delirium, which is irresistibly attractive at the time, though it with equal certainty destroys at last its useful powers, as opiates wear out the body.

In consequence of these destructive habits, the wonderful labours of this singular man were neither productive of happinefs to himself nor advantage to society; and the very friends who wept over his untimely fate could scarcely wifh that it had been deferred. He left behind him many fragments, but no finifhed work. Perhaps the most ingenious of these performances is a philosophical treatise on the derivation, and grammatical meaning of particular words in the Englifh language; somewhat on the plan of Horne Tooke's late publication called the Diversions of Purley, but more extensive. It is to be hoped that this, with some other fragments, will be soon offered to the public.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor is by no means obliged to *Enon* for sending an old printed poem, as if it had been an original composition, which has inadvertently been admitted without reprehension; and what is worse, a very inaccurate transcript of it only. Several others have been received in the same predicament. The Editor pretends not to be well acquainted with all the poetical pieces that ifsue from the prefs in Britain, so that he cannot in all cases detect the imposition; but it is a meannefs unworthy a man of taste, to endeavour thus to deck himself in ornaments that belong to another. Such poetical pieces as have merit, especially if little known, though printed, he has no objection to receive, as this is quite consistent with his plan; but in that case he requests his correspondents will always tell from whence they are transcribed.

The Editor is glad to find *T. Hairbrain* still among his correspondents; and though, as the celebrated clergyman in Edinburgh said to his brother clergyman, he might say that Mr Hairbrain *plays long upon the same pipe*; yet while he retains his wonted good humour, his lucubrations fhall be always welcome to the Bee.

Many acknowledgements still deferred.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14. 1792.

STATISTICAL NOTICES OF AMERICA.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM DR S——L S——TH OF PRINCETON, TO DR C——S N——T OF MONTROSE.

For the Bee.

The following original letters, containing a very particular account of the internal state of North America, were communicated to the Editor by a gentleman to whom he lies under great obligations for many other favours. He has no doubt but they will prove highly acceptable to most of his readers.

SIR, *Princeton, Nov. 26. 1784.*

I HAD the honour a few days ago, of receiving yours of the 25th of July, by the hands of Mr Rogers. I am much obliged by your acceptance of my friendship and correspondence, and for the proof you have given; at the same time that your are willing both to give and receive information. The friends of piety in this country are sorry to learn that infidelity is so much the fashion, and even the rage, among literary men in Europe. It is not surprising that men of licentious characters should wish to establish licentious principles; yet we cannot forbear being somewhat surprised, that in Britain,

where they reject so disdainfully the imputation of political servitude, they ſhould patiently submit to a literary one. Perhaps the diſsolution of manners having effected a corruption of taste in the nation, they are willing to enjoy their favourite authors without that interruption of their pleasures, that reason and religion, addreſsed to them by men of severe virtue, would create; and hope to accompliſh this more easily by vesting a censorſhip of letters in an unprincipled society, rather than by leaving to the preſs its proper liberty. If Europe has paſsed the meridian of her virtue, ſhe will also have paſsed that of her science; and a declining age, leaving the improvements that have already been made in the arts, without any further acceſsions, some future revolution will probably give them in that state to nations of more hardy and simple virtue, who will make additions to them, similar to those which our fathers have made to the arts of Greece and Rome. Revolutions may be unhappy events when we consider merely the ease and pleasures of mankind; but when we consider that human society can advance only to a certain period before it becomes corrupted, and begins to decline, and that letters always decline with virtue, revolutions are perhaps the neceſsary scaffolding by which science and human nature must gradually arrive at their summit. The present age values itself upon understanding the philosophy of society, and the philosophy of man. We indeed enjoy some peculiar advantages for contemplating the progreſs of civil society; but whether we understand the real principles and motives of mens actions, better than

the divines and philosophers of a century ago, seems at least very questionable. Only they regarded as *sins* what we call *natural principles*. They regarded them with the detestation due to *vice*, we with that cool philosophy that finds fault with what it esteems the *order of nature*.

I thank you for your account of the present state of patronage in the church of Scotland. I think indeed with you, that your friends have taken too great an interest in your affairs. I am not surprised that the people ſhould clamour against such an abuse, and ſhould desert the establiſhed church. An American, who has fought so many years for the enjoyment of his own consent, views, perhaps, with a peculiar kind of horror, such an encroachment upon the most sacred rights of men. At best, men who contribute to fasten such ſhackles upon themselves, must be greatly lost to honour and virtue; not to say that it appears utterly inconsistent with the allegiance which a minister of the gospel owes to truth, to religion, and to himself.

The Americans ought to thank every Briton for his cautions against the remaining pride of his country, and the rancour of those that govern it, and have been disappointed in a favourite object. I am afraid indeed that the Americans, confident from their late succeſs, are too secure. They have a pride not unlike that of the nation from which they are sprung; and because prudent generals have once defended us against our invaders, with a small army, together with aſsistance of a militia always ready to run to arms, they are ready to imagine that

an undisciplined militia will ftill be an overmatch for any foreign enemy. Since, in the most unprovided state imaginable, with respect to arms and ammunition, and when our citizens and husbandmen had scarcely ever seen an enemy before, they have resisted the most formidable invasion, and at length obtained some signal victories over the second nation in the world, it is not easy to persuade our hardy rustics that they are in danger. As a sample at once of their security and their pride, it is the common language held in Kentucky, a settlement on the waters of the Ohio, entirely begun and completed during the war with Britain, that they intend to force themselves a free trade through the Mifsisippi; and that, if the Spaniards oppose it, they will send a power down the river sufficient to conquer the Floridas and New Orleans. They even mention an attack upon Spanifh Mexico, and the mines of Santa Fee de Bagota, as an event that may not be many years distant. So that you see our countrymen are like the rest of the world,--they take their character from their circumstances, which have necefsarily made them hardy and active warriors. They despise distant nations because they do not know their power, or have once coped with it, with advantage. Succefs, and the thirst of gain, intoxicates them, and makes them unapprehensive of hazards; and particularly on our northern and western frontiers. Perpetually combating with difficulties and dangers, enterprise becomes a habit; and they have no sooner succeeded against the first obstacles than they pufh on to seek new adventures. Somewhat of a different character prevails on the sea

coast, and in the adjacent counties; but still tinctured with the same complexion. Remote, however, from savage enemies, and delivered from European ones, I presume they will not easily be alarmed, but by the most imminent appearances of danger. This certainly does not promise well for their future safety, but it enables them, they think, to enjoy their present tranquillity. I hope the nations of Europe will continue in peace, or that they will find sufficient employment for one another. This I believe will be our best security.

I wiſh that our political wisdom may entitle us to the esteem of wise men on your side of the water, as much as our independent spirit, our first measures, and our succeſs in arms, have done. You remark, "That wisdom is neceſsary to make us known to the world." If we can attract the attention of mankind by the prosperity of our country, it will be a happy circumstance; otherwise, it were, perhaps, more desirable not to be known. We ſhould not then be objects of the ambition, or the avarice of others: and not having the wisdom to be good ourselves, we ſhould not have knowledge enough to substitute for virtue the vices and follies of more improved countries.

Your inquiries I ſhall endeavour to answer in one or two following letters. They would lead me to a greater extent than I have time to reach at present; but, if God spare my health, I ſhall make it my busineſs to satisfy you very ſhortly.

To be continued.

LUCUBRATIONS OF TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN.

And thinkest thou that these men were wicked above all others? I say unto thee nay; for unlefs you repent, ye ſhall all likewise periſh.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IF it be true, as your redoubtable correspondent Thunderproof alleges, that it is a high degree of comfort for one who has got an arm lopped off, to be told that his neighbour has come yet worse off, by losing two, then we in this nation may console ourselves for the ridiculous follies of which all ranks are guilty, by being afsured, that in other parts of the world there are at least as great fools as ourselves. In this way, though we cannot prove that two blacks will make a white, we may prove that two fools may be made to believe they are both wise men, by keeping each other in countenance.

The king of Prufsia, by this kind of logic, will, on the present occasion, afford us an abundant fund for self complacency; for he,

Even Quixote himself has out-Quixoted.

He could not be satisfied with looking on at a distance, and beholding the French squabbling among themselves about power; but he forsooth, like a *wise* man as he is, must have a finger in the pye; though I think it will puzzle wiser noddles than his own to find out what businefs he had there. But he hath had his reward. Like those busybodies who cannot see a man and his wife give each other a few loving lounders, but they must be intermeddling be-

tween them, he has got the redding stroke. Those that would have been squabbling he has united; and whatever they may think of each other, they all know for certain, that he is an officious intruder, who had no businefs among them; and therefore they have given him a bloody nose, and sent him a-packing, that they may have time to fight each other fairly. They have done just as they fhould have done; for who can deny that whether the wife or the hufband is to rule the roast, no person has a right to come into their house and intermeddle in their affairs under any pretext whatever? If Catharine the imperious, had met with such a reception in Poland, it would have been fortunate for more parties than one; for in that case the confused dreams of glory and conquest, arising from the fumes of vanity, might have been dispelled before they reached the vacant brain of his Prufsian majesty; and he might have begun to perceive, that by leaving an empty house behind him, there might arise some danger of its being filled with unwelcome guests before his return. He might thus have perceived, before it was too late, that charity begins at home; that the eye of a master makes a fat horse; and that it would be as well to encourage peaceful arts in his own dominions, as to go a-crusading against those who had never offended him, in favour of those who never would have served him, even if they could. But these, though obvious considerations to some others, did not come within the compafs of the sensorium of the great Frederic, the mighty monarch of Prufsia, and third of that name.

I, who am no friend to despotism, rejoice at the misgiving of every madcap enterprise of that sort; and I hope that his example will afford a lefson to *some others*, who might have a touch of the *cacoethes dictandi*; a certain kind of *rabies*, which is apt to seize upon persons that have long had too much of their own will, which seldom leaves them till they meet with a little salutary discipline, from that ill looking, though best of all friends, *Misfortune* by name, whose severe gripe every one wifhes to fhun, though it is well known to be the most sovereign remedy that ever was applied for removing that kind of vertigo in the head, which is the never failing attendant on *prosperity*. Now, as we in this island have got a little touch of this malady, I fhould reckon it a very happy circumstance, indeed, if we fhould allow the misfortunes of others to cure us of our idle vagaries, and not insist upon feeling them our very selves, before we would take the lefson.

It is highly probable, that both Prufsia and Austria may be cured, for a time, by this imperious physician; for both of them have exhausted their finances, in equipping themselves to run a tilt against windmills, and herds of madmen, which they mistook for hay cocks, and flocks of fheep. They may now find businefs at home, to keep them for all their lifetime from ever venturing out again on such wild expeditions, as that in which they were lately engaged. As to their *supreme wisdoms* of Sardinia and Spain, they have been heaping up combustibles at home for many years, which only required a spark to set it in a blaze; and now, they are

aking effectual measures for getting the fire set to it. *We* in Britain may be spectators of the blaze at a distance, if we please; but I trust we are blefsed with more grace than to think of intermeddling in it. While we are not the insurers, what businefs have we to prevent any man from burning his house when he pleases?—Is it not his own? and if he will set it on fire, let him look to the consequences.

With regard to the French, they have got the *rabies* to such a degree, and the paroxysm is just now at such a height, that a wise man would as soon encounter a pack of mad dogs, as have any thing to do with them. What businefs have we to prevent them from worrying and tearing each other to pieces, in their own way? If they are pleased to hang one another first, and then try them, and find they were innocent afterwards, as our Jedburgh judges did before them, why fhould we disturb ourselves about it? What in the name of wonder is it to us whether Lewis, or Pethion, or Brifsot, or Roberspierre, or Marat, or Grêgoire, or Condorcet, or Chabot, or any other person among them fhall have the sway? and what concerns it to us, whether Prerogative, Hereditary Right, or Rights of Man, be the words made use of for the purpose of establifhing the dominion of those who wifh to bear sway among them. These words differ not much in sound; and by those who understand them aright, are nearly of the same significance, and only mean that they are the terms with which the people are pleased to be gulled at the present time; and therefore they are employed by those who find they serve their purpose, till they become

stale, and another vocabulary must be invented *ad captandum vulgos.*

Of all the words, however, that were ever invented, *liberty* is that which has bore the longest sway, and has admitted the widest diversity of acceptations. It is a very *Proteus* of a term, which means every thing, or any thing, or what you will. It is believed among the superstitious people in this country that certain magicians have it in their power to cast *glamar*, as they call it, into the eyes of the spectators, by which means they can make the objects they choose to present, afsume any appearance they incline. A feather will thus afsume the appearance of a fine lady; a bundle of straw an emperor; a turnip will appear to be a diamond; and a cork an ingot of gold. Nothing can resist the power of this charm but a four bladed clover; but he who is pofsefsed of this talisman is able to withstand the utmost power of the magician. To such a man a spade appears to be a spade, though all world ſhould say it is a spear. Now I verily believe that the whole of this fable has been invented by some ſhrewd fellow, as an emblematic illustration of the power of this magical word *liberty*. *Liberty*, to sober minded men, in all ages, means, "*the power of doing whatever is necefsary for promoting our own welfare, without disturbing the peace of others*;" and under this idea it cannot fail to be the object of adoration of all mankind. Before this sacred power every knee ſhould bow, and to obtain it every heart ſhould beat with ardour. But what are the ridiculous objects that have been dignified with this glorious name in different ages, and worſhipped

as such? " Some, (says Montesquieu,) have thought that liberty consisted in a facility of deposing a person on whom they had conferred a tyrannical authority; others in the power of choosing a person whom they are obliged to obey; others for the right of bearing arms, and of being thereby enabled to use violence; others for the privilege of being governed by a native of their own country, or by their own laws. A certain nation for a long time thought liberty consisted in the privilege of wearing a long beard." And at present a certain nation believes, or at least wifhes others to believe, that liberty consists in allowing every man to do whatever he pleases, without the power of controul; and this they dignify with the name of " the rights of man." Now though a sensible man who has got the talisman in his pocket, sees that all these privileges are mere bits of sticks, or straws, or uselefs baubles, yet were he to venture to say so in an afsembly of these infatuated idolaters, they would laugh him to scorn, if they were not very deeply tinctured with the *rabies dictandi* at the time; but if they were in the height of their paroxysm, the unhappy philosopher without doubt would be torn in pieces. Were I, for example, at this moment in France, I fhould as soon eat a piece off my fingers, as utter a syllable against liberty, and equality, and the rights of man. I fhould bawl out as loud as the best of them, that this is the land of freedom, and liberty; though I knew well I neither durst say what I thought, go where I inclined, or have any afsurance that either my life or my property were secured to me for a single hour. Are not those

people under the fascinating influence of *glamar*, who worſhip such a phantom, and call it Liberty? Are not those people in a delirium who call every new modulation, *eternal*, though they see that the former everlasting institution did not exist a month? Bleſſed be the country which gave me birth! and bleſſed be those who have preserved to me the sacred privileges I derive from that birthright!—In consequence of that, I can sit in my garret, and laugh

At low ambition and the pride of kings.

I can write in favour of what I think right; I can investigate with freedom whatever appears to me to be wrong. The pen that is in my hand, though it be worn to the stump, I can call my own; and I defy the proudest in this isle to take it from me without my own consent. Not a hair on my bald pate can be touched by the hand of power; not a pairing of my nail can be wrested from me by any one. My house is my castle in which I sleep secure; and into which no one but the nightly robber, at the risk of his life, dares to intrude. I live as I will. Under the steady protection of the law, I go out and come in when I please; and if I encroach nôt on the property of others, no one has a right to aſk me why I do so; or wherefore I do not comply with the rules they wiſh to establiſh. If I here exercise not the rights of man, I exercise the rights of some superior being. When you can ſhow me a country that for half a century together has been able to boast of similar privileges, I ſhall believe that the Britiſh constitution urges unjustly its claim to the highest

degree of political freedom that ever was experienced on the earth; for I hold, with old Hudibras, that,

No argument like matter of fact is.

Or if you can ſhow me a country in which I could be better protected from the ravages of others, or where I could enjoy with more perfect freedom, the full exercise of all my faculties, I ſhall then begin to respect it. But if no such place can be found, I ſhall consider those who there boast of their liberty as a parcel of *charlatans*. LIBERTY in the mouths of such persons is a sacrilegious profanation; and the noise they make about it, I can only view as the ravings of a set of bedlamites, who make use of words, the meaning of which they do not understand; of words too sacred to be permitted lightly to paſs through such unhallowed lips, lest the veneration so justly their due, ſhould come thus to be abated among mankind. O sacred freedom! heaven's last, best gift to man! who can justly appreciate thy value? Man inspired by thee rises superior to all created things. He aſsumes a dignity of mind, that excites the admiration,—and a firm and steady beneficence that commands the veneration of all beholders. Before thy sacred ſhrine I bow with humble adoration!—in thy defence the forfeiture of life would be but a trivial sacrifice! How then must I detest the execrable profanations of that rabble rout that pollute thy sacred ſhrine with deeds too horrible to name! It is not of such men thy true votaries consist. This house ought to be the abode of peace, where order and subordination ever reign; but they have converted it into a den of murderous aſsaſsins.

From the influence of such tenets good Lord deliver us! Such the sincere prayer of TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN.

ANECDOTE OF GENERAL REDING.

For the Bee.

A SOMETIMES wild, but yet, upon the whole, a good natured race, inhabit the desarts of the Alps in Switzerland. Their stormy heaven renders them hardy and strong; and their pastoral life renders them mild. An Englishman has observed, that he who has never heard the thunder among the Alps, can form no conception of the roar, the reverberation, and the long protracted noise, as it rolls along the whole horizon among these mountains; and, on this account, the inhabitants of the Alps who have never had an opportunity of seeing better houses than their own huts, nor any other country than the Alps, consider the whole world in the light of a rough, a stormy, and a toilsome waste. Perhaps it is so. But as the heavens after an awful storm resume their serenity and smile; so the heads and hearts of the Swiss are alternately wild and complacent. This I can prove from history and facts.

One of these citizens of the Alps, general Reding, a native of the canton of Schweitz, had lived from his youth with the Swiss guards in Paris and Versailes, and rose in the service of the French king to the rank of lieutenant general, but remained, neverthelefs, always a Swiss. When France, about

twenty years ago, adopted a new regulation for the Swiſs troops in her service, it was believed in the canton of Schweitz, that this regulation was inconsistent with their ancient rights and privileges; and the blame was laid on general Reding. In the mean time, the general's lady, who lived in the country, was engaged in raising recruits; but the French standard was now for once hated in the Schweitz; and the white cockade on the hat of an independent Swiſs was seen with displeasure. The recruiting was forbidden by the magistracy, not to irritate the people in the midst of this fermentation. Mrs Reding desired to have a written order for this prohibition; but the magistracy had not courage enough to take this public step against France; and the general's lady continued to inlist. Now the rage of the people was excited against this daring female. An *aſsembly* was summoned; and Mrs Reding stood before the 4000 members. The drum, said ſhe, ſhall not cease to beat, until I receive a written prohibition from the canton, as a vindication of my husband's character at court; for at present his corps is not complete. The prohibition was granted, and the general was ordered to exert his utmost influence at court in behalf of his country. More favourable reports were now expected by the men of Schweitz; but the very opposite took place. The cry was raised by those who poſseſsed credit and influence, that the new regulation was dangerous to religion and liberty.—This raised the displeasure of the whole people to madneſs. Conventions were

afsembled,—the service of France was strictly forbidden,—the treaty of 1715 was openly torn from the public register;—and general Reding was commanded to return home with his soldiers, on pain of being declared an enemy to his country. Reding obtained a discharge from his majesty for himself and his men; and they returned home. He marched into Schweitz, the chief town of the canton, at the head of his soldiers, with colours flying and music playing. The procefsion went to the church;—Reding planted his colours by the great altar,—kneeled down, and thanked God. He then took leave of his men, who wept with him, remitted all their debts, and made them a present of their fine clothes and their arms. Thus the man was now in their power whom the whole country believed to be perjured and a traitor,—to have favoured the new regulation at the court of Versailles,—to have lent his afsistance to inflict a mortal wound on his country. The enraged afsembly met. Reding was ordered to relate the whole history, that it might be known with certainty on what footing they were with France; that all the crimes of the traitor might be evident; and that mercy or justice might be administered. The general knew well, that all reasoning would rebound from the angry brows of his unfeeling countrymen, without making the smallest imprefsion in his favour. He therefore briefly and dryly said, "The history is known to every one; and I am innocent both with regard to the new regulation, and my dismifsion from the service." 'Then if he will not confefs himself a traitor, let him be hung upon the nearest tree,--let him

be hewn in pieces here immediately." Thus exclaimed the enraged multitude from all quarters; and the boisterous and bloody request was repeated from the mouths of 4000 men. Reding was immoveable. A troop of frantic boors mounted the stage on which he stood with the magistrates. It rained. A boy, who was Reding's godson, held an umbrella over his head. One of the madmen from the crowd broke it in pieces with a stick. "He ſhall stand under the bare heaven! the villain!" The boy also catched the frenzy — "I did not know that my godfather was such a traitor; now I must believe it; give me a cord that I may strangle him." —The members of the council formed a circle round the general, and begged him with outstretched hands, for God's sake, to step forward in order to save his life; and at least to grant, that perhaps he had not opposed the innovations with so much warmth and zeal as he ought to have done; that in this he was blameable; and that as a puniſhment, he made them an offer of all his property, provided they would only save his life."—Reding now came forward from the circle, with a slow and pensive step,—invited silence by a motion of his hand, and the whole aſsembly were instantly still.—All listened with eagerneſs in expectation of a penitent and supplicatory confeſsion of his crime; and in many breasts the hope arose that he might yet be pardoned. The general then addreſsed them; "Ye know, my beloved brethren and fellow citizens, that I have served the French king now two and forty years;--ye know, and many of you who

were with me were witneſses of it, how often I have marched against the enemy, and in how many battles I have been engaged; each of those bloody days I thought my last. But here, in the presence of the omniscient God, who hears my words, and is the judge of us all, I solemnly declare, that on none of those days did I enter the field of battle with the serene, the cheerful, and the guiltleſs conscience, with which I ſhall this day meet my fate, if you ſhall stain your hands with my blood, for refusing to confeſs a treason which I have not committed." The dignity with which the general uttered these words, and the radiance of truth which ſhone around him, softened the hearts of the aſsembly, and he was acquitted; but immediately after the dangers of this day, he retired with his lady from the canton, went to Uri, and lived two years as a hermit in the cave of a rock. In the mean time the intoxication of his brethren evaporated. Reding returned; forgot all; aided and was serviceable to them every where he could. The whole country acknowledged his worth,—testified their sorrow for the injustice they had done him; and in order to recompence him, raised him to the rank of *landamman*, that is, the highest in the state; and, which happens but very rarely, he was invested with this dignity three different times.

Thus, wild, and at the same time good-natured, are the pastoral inhabitants of the Alps in Switzerland. Their characters are formed by solitude and imagination; they are alternately violent and friendly, like

their climate. But I willingly acknowledge, that I would rather be a hermit in the land of Uri, than Landamman in Schweitz. EIN LIEBHABER.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

ALONG with several other things, I send you a naval epistle from the leader of a little party of Britiſh seamen, on a ramble in this city, to his meſsmate left on board the ſhip at Cronstadt.

I ſhall leave all comments upon it to your maritime readers, who form so large a claſs in Great Britain, where insular situation produces, even aſhore, more people acquainted with sea language and humour than in any country of the world. For my own part, I have only hinted at a few local circumstances which make the tar's criticism more intelligible here, than it otherwise would have been out of Ruſsia; and ſhall be happy, if by that, or any other ſhare I have had in preserving and explaining by notes Matt Marlinspike's letter, I contribute to the amusement of the subscribers to the *Bee*, which cannot in my opinion too much vary its sweets, considering the extent of its range, with the various pursuits and tastes of its customers.

Imperial Cadet Corps,
August 10. 1792. ARCTICUS.

From Mother Bumboat's, at the Dancing Bears in Peterſburg.

WHAT cheer brother meſsmate on board the Trimmer? how goes on the screwing of hemp? Suppose

by this time the hatches are laid; and the boatswain has piped to a tub of punch, which we will have no ſhare of;—but we are not at ſhort allowance here, such as it is.

Now stand by, my boy! for the journal I promised of our cruise, to overhaul with you all our adventures in this fine city.

First, we embarked at Randeboom*, on board some crazy veſsels, they call Kabitkies†, which pitched and rolled as if Davy Jones himself had been at the helm; and almost knocked in a few of my timbers before we got up here, although we brought to about half way, and stowed the bread room to keep them out.

Next day we went on a cruise through the town, and saw our old brother Peter on his horse, which he rides like a sailor, as it rises to the sea like a Norway yawl; and is so confounded by the stern, that it would capsize, were it not brought up by its rudder‡. The old seaman knew the trim of a ſhip better than of a horse. From that we bore away east, and fell in with a first rate palace ||, that might stow away all the crews of the Ruſsian navy. It is well manned aloft; but we saw few hands below; and had not the pleasure of giving the Czarina three cheers,

* The vulgar pronunciation of her imperial majesty's palace opposite the island of Cronstadt.

† A sort of covered cart, with four wheels, used for travelling.

‡ The noble equestrian statue of Peter the great is artfully kept rising on its hind legs, by the thickneſs of the metal in those parts, and the support of its tail against the rock.

|| Her imperial majesty's winter palace is crowded at top with statues, and abandoned in summer for Zarscocello.

as ſhe is on a summer cruise. We then edged away to the northward, and coasted along a fine hewn granite quay, for two knots at least, then tacked from the river to the south, and kept the fautalke canal on board, (lined with the same granite,) till we brought up in the Mechanſke; (d—n their hard names!) where all hands went to work, and made up for our long run by full allowance in good moorings.

In the evening watch we went to hear *Jacky Dobro** jaw and sing in a wondrous fine house, where there was a large empty birth kept for the Czarina, dreſsed out with gold bound velvet, and silk curtains with gold halliards, such as I never saw in my born days, not even on board the admiral;—then the awning over head was so fringed and bespangled, that we could scarce see the play for looking at it. But there was the leſs loſs, as we did not understand their lingo;—they sung, though, a good stick, and hugged Moll and Sue by the glaſs. But the best of all came at last, in what they called a ballet, when they footed it away in three tiers, and kicked up such a breeze, as did one's heart good to see them; but a couple of hands in the middle were the funniest of all, who rolled on their under works from side to side, like a ſhip in a heavy sea, and then whirled round like a water spout to the music in the stern gallery. We saw here a number of smart looking frigates; but they were all so deviliſhly painted, that we were afraid to hail them.

* Jacky Dobro is the cant name of Engliſh sailors for the Ruſsians.

I forgot to tell you that Will Gaſket did not fetch the playhouse with the rest of the squadron. He had got a little by the head, and made such bad weather of it, that he could not lay round Mother Bumboat's corner; but, after two or three boards, run foul of it, and foundered in half a foot mud, with a stony bottom;—there he lay till our landlady turned out all hands and weighed him. The swabbers were set to clean his rigging; but he could not get into trim to paſs muster at the play; so he brought to for the night in his old anchorage. We would have taken Will in tow next morning, although still a little top heavy; but, as Crocus says he wants careening as well as scrubbing, we ſhall leave him in town to be hove down. To-morrow we ſhall get under way again for Cronstadt, if we can clear out with the landlady; but Old Nick may run down in a *kabitka* for me, as I ſhall keep the rest of my timbers sound for his majesty's service.

Keep a good look out, meſsmate, to have a sea pye on the stocks when we get aboard, (a two decker at least,) with a full allowance of grog to drink wives and sweethearts in Old England; and make all clean for a Saturday night engagement with your ſhipmates.

MATT. MARLINSPIKE.
BOB JOLLYBOAT.
JOS. CHOKABLOK.

Postscript.

Saturday morning, first watch.

OUR anchors are all a-peek; but we must not loose top gallant sails yet, till Jack Flip get out of limbo,

where he was stowed away last night, for running on board a fine gentleman.

Jack had got his beer on board, and was tearing it away down the quay at four knots an hour, to fetch his quarters before all hands were turnéd in, when he made an unlucky yaw just alongside of the fine gentleman, and ſhoved him overboard into the street; all hands are in a helliſh funk, that he is some commiſsioned officer or other, about Palace, as he had a red saſh slung athwartſhips, and a silver badge on his larboard bow.

We have got the boatswain of a Ruſsian man of war to parly with the limbo gang, as we do not understand their lingo; but he says, Jack will get a dozen at the gangway, if we cannot muster amongst us a yellow boy; and we are just going to our merchant to raise it; as Mother Bumboat has left us all as light as a cork jacket.

A TRUE RELATION OF THE INTERMENT OF KING CHARLES I. IN THE CHAPEL OF ST GEORGE, IN WINDSOR CASTLE, FROM AN ANCIENT MANUSCRIPT OF UNQUESTIONABLE AUTHORITY.

Communicated by a correspondent.

WEDNESDAY, the 27th of February 1648, the corpse being brought to Windsor castle in a hearse, by Mr Murray the king's coachman, accompanied by the duke of Richmond and Lennox, the Marquis of Hartford, the earl of Lindsay, the earl of Southampton, and biſhop Juxon; and being placed in the dean's hall, the aforesaid lords sent for a plumber

to open the coffin and lead. They being fully satisfied it was the king, his head was sewed to his body. They gave orders to the plumber to cast a piece of lead, some two feet long, with this inscription: "This is king Charles I. 1648," and solder the lead acroſs the roof of the coffin. This being done, the coffin was nailed up, and remained two days in the hall, being darkened with velvet pall, and two lighted tapers upon the coffin. After which time, the corpse was carried by two soldiers of the garrison into the chapel, the lords above named bearing up the pall: biſhop Juxon, and the governor of the castle, whose name was Whichcot, and the officers of the garrison, with others, following the corpse; which corpse, with the valvet pall, was placed upon two truſsels, in a vault in the middle of the choir, by king Henry VIII. and his queen Jane. The governor commanded some of his officers to see the workman close up the vault. The governor would not suffer the biſhop to bury the king after the church of England manner; neither would the lords allow of his way. There was nothing read at the grave; the biſhop's lips were observed to move. They were all full of tears and sorrow. —The soldiers had twelvepence each for carrying the corpse to the grave.

This king's interment, like that of Oliver Cromwell, has been much disputed; and it has never before been authentically proved, that the real body of king Charles I. was deposited in the royal chapel at Windsor.

ANACREON'S DOVE.

A translation from the Greek, the completion of which employed Dr Johnson fifty-two years.

Lovely courier of the ſky,
Whence and whither doſt thou fly?
Scatt'ring as thy pinions play,
Liquid fragrance all the way:
Is it buſineſs? Is it love?
Tell me, tell me gentle dove.
' Soft Anacreon's vows I bear,
' Vows to Myrtale the fair;
' Grac'd with all that charms the heart;
' Bluſhing nature,—ſmiling art.
' Venus courted by an ode,
' On her bard the dove beſtow'd,
' Veſted with a maſter's right,
' Now Anacreon rules my flight.
' His the letters that you ſee,
' Weighty charge conſign'd to me:
' Think not yet my ſervice hard,
' Joyleſs taſk without reward;
' Smiling at my maſter's gates,
' Freedom my return awaits.
' But the liberal grant in vain
' Tempt me to the wild again:
' Can a prudent dove decline
' Bliſsful bondage ſuch as mine?
' Over hills and fields to roam,
' Fortune's gueſt without a home;
' Under leaves to hide one's head,
' Slightly ſhelter'd, coarſely fed;
' Now my better lot beſtows
' Sweet repaſt, and ſoft repoſe;
' Now the gen'rous bowl I ſip,
' As it leaves Anacreon's lip;
' Void of care and free from dread,
' From his fingers ſnatch his bread,
' Then with luſcious plenty gay,
' Round his chambers dance and play,
' Or from wine as courage ſprings,
' O'er his face extend my wings,
' And when feaſt and frolic tire,
' Drop aſleep upon his lyre.
' This is all, be quick and go,
' More than *all* thou canſt *not* know;
' Let me now my pinions try,
' I have chatter'd like a pye.

SONNET.

NATURE ! sweet mistrefs of the pensive mind!
As on a sandy fhore I musing stand
And see around the wonders of thy hand,
I feel each pafsion sooth'd, each sense refin'd.

The icy plains above the whisp'ring tide,
The dreary woods that bound th' extensive view,
The light blue clouds that Sol's pale lustre hide,
Vary thy tints and every charm renew.

Thee when young *spring* sports on the spangled green,
When *summer* blufhes in her rosy bow'rs,
When welcome *autumn* yellow plenty fhow'rs,
Or winter storms amid the alter'd scene;
Still let me love, still woo thee to my arms,
For peace and virtue blefs the heart that nature charms.

TO MARIA.

For the Bee.

FAIR beauty's loveliest flow'r! to whom is given
Those charms that throw, without an artful aid,
A heav'nly lustre o'er Retirement's fhade,
And make thy lovely haunts a little heaven.

Oh! born to bloom in Solitude's retreat,
The glory and the pride of C—d—s vale;
May angels guard thee from the storms of fate,
And fhield thy blofsoms from each wint'ry gale.

While I all lost to anxious despair,
Still hold thy image in my tortur'd breast,
And trace each feature, as it grows more fair;
Till one, with Fortune's honours more carest,
Shall bear thee swiftly from thy native fhore,
And tear thee from my sight, and bid me hope no more!

ARMINE.

GLEANINGS OF ANCIENT POETRY.

LAUS VENERIS.

"ANE TREATISE CALLIT THE COURT OF VENUS, DIVIDIT INTO FOUR BUIKES, NEWLIE COMPYLIT BE JOHN ROLLAND IN DALKEITH, IMPRINTIT AT EDINBURGH BE JOHN ROS, MDLXXV. *Cum privilegio regali.*

OUT fra the splene with cordiall amouris,
Greit salusingis, with greitings full of gloir;
Laude, reverence, helth, vertew, and honouris,
With all havingis that may ane corps decoir,
To the Venus I render evermoir.
And nocht causles; with superabundant
Mirth, melodie, thow dois my hart refloir,
As invincent victour, and triumphant.

For to remane into memoriall
Thy name and fame in chronik and scriptour,
I sall gar prent to keip perpetuall,
As is the actis of the greit conquerour;
O! Venus, quene! of all quenis the flour,
Adres my spreit, that I may say sum thing,
Within this gairth to thy laude and honour,
The to salute, and thy sone Cupid king.

My spreitis thay feir, for dreid my hart dois quaik,
My toung trimblis half in ane extasie,
Fra my febill and feint ingine to tak,
And to descrive the greit nobilitie
And tendernefs that dois remane in the.
The proverb is, gude will sould be payment,
Because the toung can nocht keip unitie,
As wald the heart, now to purpois I went.

The poem is upon the whole a curious picture of the manners of the age, with that strange jumble of the Pagan mythology and the Christian religion, of which we see so many examples in the works of Milton.

PHILALBAN.

ON FEEDING AND FATTENING GEESE AND DUCKS.

In the course of our lucubrations, we have often occasion to take notice of the great benefits that would result from a general diffusion of the knowledge that has been acquired by experience in arts and agriculture, throughout the globe. The following particulars respect a subject that has been an object of attention to every person in the country, for hundreds of years past, in every part of Europe; yet we may venture to say, that the facts it particularises will be perfectly new to, perhaps, nine hundred and ninety-nine out of a thousand readers of the Bee, though it has been practised for time immemorial in the part of the world from whence the account is sent; it is extracted from the Memoirs of the Royal Society of Agriculture in Paris.

Were gentlemen, in general, at as much pains to describe with accuracy, such modes of practice in their own district, in which long experience had rendered them perfect in all the details, as they are in general to publish imperfect accounts of foreign practices which are new to them, and consequently only partially known, the progress of useful knowledge would be much more rapid than it ever hitherto has been. But it is so natural for one to think that what he has seen practised from his infancy, and which is universally known by those around him, can be a matter of little curiosity to any one, that he neglects it; though he eagerly catches at the least hint of a practice that is new to him, and is anxious to communicate it to others, thinking it will afford them as much satisfaction as it does to himself. From these causes it often happens that the proper order of things is directly reversed; he

who ought to be the instructor, remains silent; and he who is willing to learn, though unqualified to teach, becomes the instructor. Could our correspondents; those especially at a distance, be induced to communicate with accuracy, the details of any excellent practice in regard to arts, manufactures, agriculturte, trade, or rural economics, that has long prevailed in their particular district, they would confer an obligation on the public, and a particular favour on the Editor.

An approved mode of rearing and fattening geese in Languedoc.

M. Casimir Puymorin, correspondent of the Society at Toulouse, has communicated to the society the following manner of raising and fattening geese, in the canton which he inhabits.

They raise, in upper Languedoc, a kind of large white and grey geese, almost as big as the swan, of which the distinguiſhing mark is a lump of fat under the belly, which touches the ground when these animals walk. As you leave Toulouse, and approach towards Bearn and the moors, that lump diminiſhes, and the kind of geese becomes weaker and smaller; but in return, when salted, they are better and more delicate.

The geese lay in the month of March, and the young are hatched by the beginning of April. They are fed on bran, crumb of bread, and young ſhoots of trees, cabbage, lettuce, and bruised plants. Care is taken to ſhelter them from the cold; and they are not allowed to go out but in fine weather. The eggs are generally hatched by hens. Care must be taken to remove all hemlock that may grow near the place where they are kept; the young are fond of it; but they will scarcely have swallowed a

single ſhoot when they fall down dead. When the goslings are one or two months old, they join the goose and gander which had been preserved for producing eggs, and go without any conductor to seek food in the neighbouring pastures, and along the rivulets. They return at night to their home; and the good managers take care to give them lettuce, cabbage, groundsel, and grains of wild oats. There is a very great consumption of these birds,—since, from the month of June till the month of October, there are consumed in the single city of Toulouse, 120,000, which are sold, for the most part, divided into quarters; the giblets are sold again separately. The price of a goose three or four months old, is fiom twenty to forty sols, [halfpence.] After the harvest they find plenty of food in the fields, either in corn, or the seeds of wild plants; and afterwards in the threſhed straw, where they carefully seek out the grains that have been left. After the first frosts of November, they must be fed for a month with some care. To make them get into fleſh, they give them bruised herbs and riddlings of corn. As for me, I have found them fatten better on potatoes, raw or boiled, which they eat with avidity.

After the bird has got into good fleſh, it is neceſsary not to delay the fattening of them too long, lest you lose the season entirely. About the end of December they enter into rut, after which time they will not fatten at all. As soon as the frost has set in, they are ſhut up, to the number of ten or twelve, (never more,) in a dark place, where they neither can see light, nor hear the cries of those which are kept for laying. They remain in that prison till they have attained the greatest degree of fatneſs, and are ready for killing;—that moment must be seized, otherwise they would very soon turn lean, and at last die.

There are two ways of fattening them. The first by giving them a trough filled with water mixed with the grain which they call *sarde* *; so that the geese may eat whenever they please;—the geese fattened on this grain are very delicate. Others put into the trough grains of maize boiled in water. They take care to give them plenty of that food, and to keep the coop clean. At the end of two or three weeks the geese are fully fattened; they are then taken out of the coop, and allowed to go into the water for twenty-four hours, in a pond or other water;—without that precaution their flesh would have a disagreeable flavour.

The second manner of fattening them, is to cram them twice a-day, by putting into their craw, by means of a tin tube, as much as it will hold of maize boiled in water. The tube is used because the bill of the goose being furnished with teeth, the person who performed that operation would very soon have his hands torn and all over blood. By this means the geese acquire a prodigious fatness, so that a pair sometimes weigh from fifty to sixty pounds. Their liver weighs from one pound to a pound and a half,---is white, and delicate,—but has a slight bitternefs to the taste, which the liver of a duck has not. The hearts are large like a small apple, and when drefsed on the grid-iron they are excellent eating. The feet are boiled, after which they are fried the same as the tongue.

On rearing and fattening ducks.

The ducks which they raise, fatten and thrive in this country to a surprising degree; they are of that kind called in Patois, *mule ducks;* that is, a kind of mule which does not generate, produced by the great Indian drake and the common duck. This union being effected between animals of different species, the produce of it is seldom

* Can any of my readers inform what kind of grain this is? *Edit.*

fruitful; from an hundred eggs there are scarcely twenty ducklings produced; sometimes none. It is even necefsary to have recourse to cherifhing means, and to give to the drake and the duck plenty of nourifhment, and especially a great deal of bread. That fermented aliment agrees with them better than corn and other grain, and excites them to production; the female must also get egg fhells, snails, or other calcareous matter, otherwise their eggs would be without fhells, and covered only by a pellicle. As fast as the ducks lay, their eggs are gathered and given to hens to hatch. When they are hatched, they follow for some time their foster mother; but they soon quit her to go in a flock to muddle along the rivulets, and seek their food; they return at night to their house, where they get leaves of lettuce, lucerne, cabbage, and other herbs. Their plumage is of a deep green, and their size between that of the large Indian *, and the common duck. They have not those red excrescences which distinguifh the Indian duck, but they have their deep green plumage. If care was not taken to cut the pinion of the wings they would fly off and leave the country. In the month of November they are fed with millet, and other grain. I have substituted to it, with succefs, potatoes boiled with cabbage.

When they are pretty fat, they are fhut up eight by eight in a dark place. Every morning and evening a servant puts their wings acrofs, and placing them between his knees, opens their bill with his left hand, and with his right fills the craw with boiled maize; they sometimes die suffocated, but they are not a bit the worse for it, provided care is taken to bleed them directly. These unfortunate animals pafs there fifteen days in a state of oppreſsion and suffocation, which makes their liver grow large, and keeps them always panting, and almost without breathing.

* Can any of my readers inform what kind of duck is meant by this name? *Edit.*

When the tail of the duck spreads out like a fan, they know that it is fat enough; they are then turned out to bathe in water, after which they are killed.

I have opened two ducks, of which the one had not, and the other had been crammed. The first had a liver of the natural size, the ſkin equally thick, and the lungs perfectly sound. That which had been crammed had an enormous liver, which, covering all the lower part of the belly, extended as far as the anus; (the ducks are generally suffocated, when by the preſsure of the liver the anus is opened, and the liver appears at its orifice.) The lungs were small and loaded with blood. The ſkin of the belly which covered the liver was of the thickneſs of a ſhilling.

Mode of curing ducks for preservation.

When the ducks thus crammed, as well as the geese, have been plucked, they seem balls of fat, and none of their members are discernible. Two days after killing, they are opened below, and their wings and legs taken off, and the fleſh which covers the rump and the stomach. The whole is put into a salting tub with the neck and the end of the rump, and is left covered with salt for fifteen days; after which they are cut into four quarters, and put into the pot. Care is taken first to season them with cloves, and to put some spiceries to them,—some leaves of Spaniſh laurel and a little saltpetre having been put in the brine to give the meat a fine red colour.

Geese salted with the salt of the well of *Saliee*, are much tenderer, and more delicate, than those salted with sea salt. It is even the case with hams; and it is to that salt that the hams of Bigorre and Bearn, known by the name of hams of Bayonne owe their reputation.

Mode of curing geese for preservation.

There are two ways of preparing the geese, raw or dreſsed. The first is not much used, on account of its dear-

nefs ; because, not recovering the fat of the goose, they are obliged to use other fat to cover it with. They are, it is true, more delicate, and the half of a thigh is sufficient to make a difh. This way is only used by nice people, who can afford the expence of it. The following is more common :

The quarters of the goose are roasted in a copper cauldron,—the fat melts. When the bones appear and a straw will penetrate into the flefh of the goose, it is then enough drefsed. The quarters are arranged in glazed earthen pots, care being taken that the flefh do not touch the sides of the pot. The pot is then filled with the melted gooses fat, which, congealing, covers the whole and keeps out the air. Fifteen days afterwards, the fat will have sunk down and hardened, hogs lard is then poured on it, which closes up the orifice of the pot entirely. The whole is covered with a paper dipped in spirits, and with a thick oiled paper. In spite of all these precautions, the air always penetrates a little, and the first quarters, five or six months after, have a slight rancid taste.

EXTRAORDINARY BRIDGES.

Bridge of Schaffhouse.

THE bridge which makes the only communication between the canton of Schaffhouse and the rest of Switzerland, having been carried away several times by the frefhes of the Rhine, one of an extraordinary strength was thrown over that river, which is in use at present. Grubenmann, a native of the canton of Appenzel, who was the architect of it, undertook to join the two banks of the Rhine, 342 feet distant, by a single arch. None but a man of superior talents, knowing thoroughly all the resources of his art, could have conceived so bold an undertaking, which was destined to immortalize his name.

But the danger which the magistrates saw, or thought they saw, in an arch of such a prodigious span, disſuaded them from accepting the magnificent offer of Grubenmann. They demanded that the pile ſhould be preserved which is situated in the middle of the river, and which had resisted the violence of the waters when the bridge was carried away.

It is said that Grubenmann, obliged to follow the orders of the magistrates, eluded them more than he fulfilled them. He preserved the pile; but he threw over his arch with such art, that it is said not to borrow the least support from it; and that this pile might be destroyed without the bridge suffering in its strength in the smallest degree.

Connoiſseurs differ about it; some say it does support the bridge, and some say it does not; and the question is still undecided. If ever the Rhine comes to destroy that pile, the problem will be solved.

In the mean time, after having given the opinion of others, I will now give my own. I hold for fabulous the prohibition of the magistrates, as well as the intention of eluding their orders. The bridge forms a very obtuse angle above the pile; the piece of architecture which descends from it, ought to be only looked upon as a lamp post; and I imagine that the magistrates of Schaffhouse, as well as Grubenmann, have considered that the pile might one day be carried away by the waters of the river; that since it was poſsible to construct an arch which ſhould reach from one bank to the other, it was wise to do it; that, since there was a pile about the middle of the space, it was proper to make use of it accidentally for the support of the bridge, which, from thence may be said to stretch over the Rhine by an astoniſhing arch of 342

feet span ; and which ought to paſs for one of the wonders of our age.

The construction of this bridge cost 200,000 livres, French money. It ſhakes with the lightest burden, and supports without danger the heaviest loaded carriages. Without theory, without the study of mathematics, the simple carpenter Grubenmann excited the admiration of connoiſseurs by that masterpiece, which was the fruit of the extraordinary talents with which nature had endowed him, and which carried him on the wings of genius to the perfection of his art.

Bridge of Reichenaw.

A league and a half below Coire, near the castle of Reichenaw, at the bottom of which is the conjunction of the two great branches of the upper and the lower Rhine, I paſsed their united waters on a covered wooden bridge, formed by a single arch, of 240 feet span ; which had for its architect Jean Grubenmann, whose brother constructed the famous bridge of Shcaffhouse.

ARCTIC NEWS.

Coutinued from p. 32.

Two curious Siberian ring stones described.

EUROPE has been long acquainted with a curious stone peculiar to Siberia, composed of fine threads of red ſhorl, inclosed by nature in white transparent rock crystal, which, when regularly disposed, as is sometimes the case, resembles perfectly those treſses of real hair so often put under an artificial crystal in honour of some favourite mistreſs or happy lover.

This *lusus naturæ* has been fancifully, though not inaptly, named *Cheveux de Venus*, from its colours resembling that

given by the poets to the hair of the goddefs of beauty,--a circumstance which I am surprised has escaped the notice of the poets of the Bee, as certainly, on that account, Scotland may dispute her birth with either the Sea or Cythera; for they cannot be ignorant that it was disputed by other states on much slenderer grounds. Another variety of this curious stone has lately been discovered in Siberia, containing *green* instead of red hair, which I think we may call *Thetis's hair* (if it must bear the name of a goddefs) with the advantage of keeping to the same briny origin, where the fair wearer is a constant inhabitant, instead of taking only an infant dip and coquetting it all the rest of her days on dry land, like the inconstant Venus.

Premiums offered by Arcticus to writers for the Bee.

With your permifsion I will offer, Mr Editor, to the poets of the Bee, a fine ring stone of Venus' as well as Thetis's hair, a flattering ornament for the victor's finger. The first for the best clafsical fable of that fair jilt's trip to Siberia, and the manner fhe left her golden locks in a crystal rock. The jealous husband must have no part in the adventure, as no marks of his black paws are left on our spotlefs rock.

The second tribute offered to succefsful imagination is a ring stone of the sea goddefs's hair, whom they must get to Siberia as they can, or the offered stone, its production, will not be within their reach*.

My prizes, Mr Editor, may be scouted at on the first blufh of the offer; but when your poets fhall recollect

† Two very fine ring stones, answering to the description above given, were received along with this, and are now in the Editor's pofsefsion to be applied as the author desires. Competition pieces will be received any time till the 1st of May.

that Theocritus and Licidas sung for a shepherd's crook, surely a Caledonian bard may tune his reed for goddesses locks in crystal rocks.

To be continued.

EXTRACTS FROM THE GAZZETE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FROM the following paragraphs extracted from the gazette of the United States of America, it will appear that a spirit of discontent there prevails respecting affairs of government, as well as in this country; and that that happy constitution, as it has been called, as well as our own, is the subject of complaint by a disaffected party. Indeed wherever freedom prevails that must be in a lesser or greater degree the case.

EXTRACTS.

'How jaundiced must be the eye which views the systems of congress as pernicious to the honour, interests, and happiness of our country! Although *the impartial foreign world* resounds with applauses for the revival of our public credit, for the maintenance of honesty between man and man,—for the restoration of commerce,—and the advancement of manufactures: though the resulting prosperity of our encreasing agriculture is attracting the attention of the most intelligent nations of Europe: though our government is the frequent topic of the eulogies of the struggling patriots of the old world, the tongue of *prejudice and error* is incessantly recounting a different tale to the people of the United States. *Americans, be sober minded.* Think for yourselves, and that seriously. *Let not the effusions of heated minds* have any influence on those reflections concerning public affairs, which it is the duty *of every free citizen* to make. Gaz. Un. States No. 283.

'Liberty, like every other good thing, is to be used with discretion. Cry huzza, and *down with government*; is there any liberty in this? *The few* who govern the many, often raise this cry, and possess themselves of the power of a multitude who join in it. But again, is this liberty? or the power of a few? In sober times, when the laws have no passions, the multitude really governs. The people therefore, by supporting the laws, support liberty and equal right, which they already possess; by opposing the laws with force they put all to risk. Ibid. No. 283.

'The people have seldom cause to fear that accusers of their government will be wanting. The risk is, that a sudden and passionate censure

will be pafsed upon their rulers. The *pleasure* of people is often opposed to their *interest*. Public men are at least apt enough to yield to the love of popularity. The greater danger is that they will want firmnefs when great things are to be done, disregarding little ones. It concerns the people therefore, to deal out their censures sparingly; and never till inquiry has first been made. In that case, many men who pofsefs virtue, but want firmnefs, will dare to serve the public faithfully.' Ibid No. 291.

'Every thing has its season. There is a kind of fafhion in the turn of writing, on political subjects especially, which every warrior of the quill is fond of following. He likes to step to the tune that is playing. When the government was first adopted, they came forward in ranks keeping time to the music: *what a blefsed government! what a wise government! the wonder of the world!—public credit will be restored,—trade protected,--we fhall be a nation, &c.* Then the tune changed again: *this government wants amendments; without amendments 'tis a terrible government,—a tyranny; lordfhips will be as thick as taverns; and we fhall get as much intoxicated with them;—the amendments, like cold water, will keep us temperate and sober.* After the first congrefs met, *what salaries?—what a burden on the country? The public debt will not be paid,—the money all goes to salaries,—trade is taxed to death,—the land is ready to sink under the weight of taxes which are not laid to pay them,—the wheat will blast,—the grafs will not grow,—the fhips will not sail,—the tide will not rise, because of high salaries.* The second sefsion of the first congrefs brought a new system of grievances into fafhion.—*Why does congrefs hear quaker petitions, and neglect providing for the public debt? why is it not funded? the public creditors are starving,—congrefs is growing fat in sloth and good pasture, while the time is lost in hearing quaker's sermons for and against slavery.* The debt was funded,—out rufhed an angry tribe of writers, crying *rogues and cheats!* Congrefs has cut off the just demands of the creditors, 4 *per cent* instead of 6, and one third of the debt deferred for ten years, without interest. The state governments pursued the idea, and made up the deficiency to their creditors. That topic was worn out, and then the opposite doctrine was taken up. Congrefs has given too much,—the public creditors are living in luxury, such a flood of wealth will drown us,—what will become of all this sea of money? Industry will turn lounger,—virtue itches to take a bribe; and republicanism has lost her voice, and is choaking with her own fat.———I find by reading the papers, that Congrefs is always in the wrong.——Is the public opinion unsteady? or are there a few men who lie in wait, and seize every opportunity to make the people *hate the government* as bitterly as *they do* themselves?

' Some old fable tells us, that Jupiter was so much teazed with the prayers of mankind, that at length he resolved to give them whatever the

asked. But the spirit of discontent was so far from being allayed by it, that it broke out in murmurs more than ever. If this tale were of modern date, we should believe the author had intended a fling at us.' Ibid. No. 298.

'While those who disseminate principles that have a tendency to make mankind better fathers, brothers, and citizens, merit more from their country, than those who atchieve the most splendid victories,—those, on the other hand, who by their writings attempt to weaken the bands of society, by teaching the principles of a selfish policy, and inculcating doctrines that confound all distinction of right and wrong, are more injurious to the world than earthquakes which depopulate whole regions.' Ibid. No. 302.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE observations of *A. Z.* are received. As is also *a lover of young Scots.* The Editor regrets he chanced not to be able to answer it by the bearer; and not knowing how to direct he can only request that he will take the trouble to cause call at any other time, when the answer will be at the Bee Office ready.

The Editor agrees with *J. C.* in regard to the importance of the measures he recommends; but his experience in matters of that sort, makes him not so sanguine in his expectations as this benevolent writer.

Amicus will see that his anxiety was unnecessary.

Thanks are due to *Satirical* for his ingenious observations. The dialogue was more in use for conveying instruction about the beginning of this century than the present. It is, perhaps, well laid aside, as it necessarily leads to prolixity. Could this gentleman have taken the trouble to throw it into another form and abridge it, the performance would have been more acceptable.

The Editor is sorry he cannot indulge *a constant reader*. The verses are unfit for publication.

The lines by *A. L.* are received and under consideration.

The memoirs of Sir William Bruce are thankfully received; farther information will still be acceptable.

A large packet containing many interesting communications from correspondents in Russia has been lately received, as also another from North America, which will appear during the course of the ensuing winter.

Many acknowledgements still deferred.

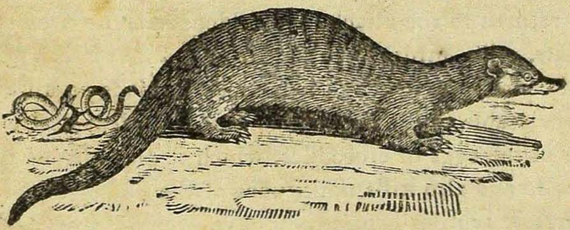
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21. 1792.



THE ICHNEUMON.

THIS is one of the most remarkable of a very numerous clafs of carnivorous animals,—the weasel tribe. They are all distinguifhed by the great length, and slendernefs, and pliability of their bodies, and the fhortnefs of their legs. They are so small and flexible as to wind like worms into very small crevices, and therefore peculiarly calculated for pursuing small destructive animals into their holes, and devouring them. They are slow in pursuit, but make up for that by patience and afsiduity.

The ichneumon, which is also called the rat of Pharaoh, has all the strength, agility, and instinct of a cat; it has a more universal appetite for carnage,

and a greater variety of methods to procure it. Every living creature which it is able to overcome, it ventures to attack; and preys upon every kind of flesh. Neither the strength of the dog, nor the malice of the cat, can terrify it; neither the claws of the vulture, nor the poison of the viper, can intimidate it. Fearless of venom, it makes war upon all kinds of serpents; and when it perceives the effect of their rage, it is said to obtain an antidote from a certain root which the Indians call by its name, after which it returns to the attack, and seldom fails of victory. Rats, mice, birds, serpents, lizards, and insects, are all equally pursued by this animal; but it is peculiarly serviceable to the Egyptians, as it is a great destroyer of the eggs of crocodiles, which it digs out of the sand, and also kills multitudes of the young of those terrible reptiles before they have been able to reach the water. It is even said, that when it finds a crocodile asleep upon the shore, it boldly enters the mouth of that animal, and when it has effectually destroyed it, eats its way out again.

The ichneumon is about the size of the domestic cat, somewhat longer in the body, and shorter in the legs. The tail is more pointed and less bushy than that of the martin, which, in other respects, it nearly resembles. Its fur is of a grisly black colour; but not so fine as that of the martin. Every hair has three or four colours, which are seen in different dispositions of its body. The eyes of this animal are sprightly and full of fire; and its physiognomy sensible. Its nose is long and slender; its ears small, rounded, and almost naked; its tail is

thick at the base, and tapers to the point. Like the rest of its kind, it has glands that open behind, and furnish an odorous substance. It will take the water like an otter, and continue longer under it.

It is found in Egypt, where the inhabitants paid divine honours to it on account of the benefit they derived from it by destroying the numbers of crocodiles. It is also found in all the southern parts of Asia, as far south as the island of Java. It is at present domesticated, and kept in houses in Egypt and India, where it is more useful than a cat, in destroying rats and mice, but more especially serpents and creeping reptiles, which it searches for with avidity. It grows very tame, and will sit up like a squirrel, feeding itself with its fore feet, and catching any thing that is thrown to it. Lucan beautifully describes the addrefs of the ichneumon in subduing the Egyptian asp:

> Aspidas ut pharias cauda solertiæ hostis
> Ludit, et iratas incerta provocat umbra:
> Obliquans que caput varias serpentis in auras
> Effusæ toto comprendit guttura morsu
> Letiferam citra saniem: tunc irrita pestis
> Exprimitur, faucesque fluunt pereunte veneno.
>
> LIB. IV. p. 724.

In its domestic state it is perfectly tame and gentle. Mr d'Obsonville speaks of one which he reared from a young one. It became tamer than a cat; was obedient to the call of its master; and followed him wherever he went. One day he brought a small water serpent alive, being desirous to know how far its instinct would carry it against a being with whom it was hitherto unacquainted. Its first emo-

tion seemed to be astonishment mixed with anger. Its hair became erect; in an instant it stepped behind the reptile, and with remarkable swiftness and agility, leaped upon its head, seized it, and crushed it with its teeth. This first essay seemed to have awakened its natural appetite for blood, which till then had given way to the gentleness of education. It no longer suffered the poultry, among which it was brought up, to pass unregarded; but took the very first opportunity, when it was alone, to strangle them. It eat a part of their flesh, and drank only the blood of others.

It has a small soft voice, somewhat like a murmur; and unless struck or irritated, never exerts it.

When it sleeps it folds itself up like a ball, and is not easily awaked. It often feigns itself dead till its prey comes within its reach; it starts upon its prey like an arrow, and seizes it with inevitable certainty.

THE TRAVELLER. No. II.

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF J. W. SPENCER.

Genoese territories.

I HAVE been nine days in walking from Milan towards Genoa, and am just arrived at the top of that rising ground where the Mediterranean first glads the eye of the weary traveller. There is a bushy larch tree a little to the south of the summit, on the left hand side of the road. Come, my dear fellow! come sit down with me under its shade; and may your feelings be like mine! and like me may you

heave a sigh, while we take a mental survey of its coasts, that were the theatre of all the important actions handed down to us by antiquity, whose knowledge of the world was long confined to the countries washed by its gentle billows!

On our left is Italy, almost dividing it into two,—Italy, the nursery of those brave Romans, who, by the wisdom of their institution, and the persevering bravery of their troops, extended their knowledge of the world by their victories; Greece, famous for its legislators, poets, statuaries; Corinth, Athens, Thebes, and Sparta; Macedon for its Alexander; Troy, that employed for so many years the arms of Greece,——[*A young woman dressed in a black riding coat, passed by riding on an ass.*]——Troy, before whose walls so many heroes fell; Tyre, which sustained a thirteen years siege against the Babylonian king,—carried on all the commerce of the world,—dared to send her ships beyond the pillars of Hercules,—and first braved the billows of the British seas; the Holy Land, the scene of all those mighty acts recorded in the Bible, which, setting its religious use entirely aside, affords an interesting and valuable picture of ancient manners; Egypt, the cradle of every liberal art and science, through whose fertile fields flow the waters of the muddy Nile; Carthage, the daughter of Tyre, enabled by her wealth and traffic to withstand for many years the power of Rome; the delightful and excellent coast of Africa, the native country of wheat, and the granary of Rome; and lastly, the pillars of Hercules, esteemed for many ages the *ne plus ultra* of the

world, the memory of which belief, the reverse of Spanish coins preserves by contradicting.

When I was walking slowly down the hill, I was passed by the lady I had before seen riding on the ass. She was in earnest conversation with a very plain looking man, who walked at her foot. She left him at the first town, and went up to a neat farm house;—the man went on towards Genoa. I soon came up with him, and we began a conversation. He superintended the management of a small farm under the lady who had left him.

Ladies generally sink or rise to the station of their husbands. Where the lady is taken from a very low rank, she never gets up quite so high, and the husband is sure to sink somewhat till they meet. When this happens, he does not fill that place in society, nor is that personal respect paid him, to which by his abilities, he seems entitled.

The story of the lady upon the ass suggested these assertions. If they run counter to your own observations, read the following examples intended to support them.

A French nobleman of great distinction, who had almost ruined his fortune, retired to give it a little nursing at Genoa, where he soon became acquainted with the father of this lady. The count himself placed all his visits to the score of the old gentleman, in whose conversation he took great pleasure, and the world did so too; for he was a man of genius and learning. Perhaps they were both in the right at first, as his passion for the lady, who was then in the bloom of youth and beauty, grew upon him in-

sensibly, and had gained a considerable height before he knew it had commenced ; and he was soon too far engaged to be ablē to retreat. Although a Frenchman, he did not attempt to gain her but by the most honourable means. They were married, and lived happily for five years in Genoa, when his fortune having in a great measure recovered the damages of his early dissipation, he returned to court, where his lady fluttered in all the gaiety and splendor of Versailles, with so much dignity, that no one could have suspected she had been taken from a station so much below him. The base attempts of his most intimate friend to seduce her, she discovered to her husband, who was killed in a duel he fought to punish the design upon his honour. His creditors seizing every thing he had in the world, she was abandoned by his relations, and retired to this farm, which her father, when dying, had left to her, his only child. Here she now lives in easy plenty, beloved and respected by all the neighbourhood.

Lady A. B. married her father's footman ; and in ten years sunk to be a very good wife to the driver of a mail coach, on a great road, not one hundred miles from London.

Mr W. married his maid servant. She dresses as well as his wife should do ; but she wants that ease and grace which are so rarely acquired in advanced life, and is every hour betraying her low original by remains of her pristine rusticity ; while the husband, who in information and knowledge, is far supe-

rior to his neighbours, is only allowed to be a worthy, good natured, inoffensive creature.

W. E.

To be continued.

STATISTICAL NOTICES OF NORTH AMERICA.

Copy of a letter from Dr S——L S——th of Princeton, to Dr C——s N——t of Montrose.

Continued from p. 27.

I must confefs, in the beginning, that North America is but indistinctly known to the inhabitants of these states, beyond the limits marked out for them by the late treaty. Many travellers have penetrated much farther, among the nations west of the Mifsisippi, and north of Canada; but either they have not gone so far, or examined so accurately, as to satisfy us; or they have not been men of such characters, for wisdom and integrity, as to procure entire credit to every report which they have brought. There has never been much hazard in travelling among the Indians, except among those who border upon the European settlers, and who have been irritated by hostilities, or the fraud of traders. The others are humane and hospitable, pleased with toys, on which their ignorance sets a disproportionate value; and ready to receive any stranger, especially if he opens his way with small presents that amuse their curiosity, or gratify their vanity. As the character, and manners, and state of society among the savages, would make a very important

part of the history of human nature, it appears to me an object that merits the attention of literary societies, not lefs than the discovery of new islands and seas. Hitherto the Indians have been observed, chiefly within the compafs of the United States, and by traders or soldiers, who had objects very different from philosophy in their view. The character of the observers has necefsarily confined their observations, in a great measure, to that part of the Indian tribes that has been corrupted by our interests, or intimidated by our injuries. Sensible men, however, have been able, from the observations that have been made upon these people in different attitudes, to trace with considerable accuracy, their general character and state. But I conceive it would not be unworthy of societies eftablifhed for extending human knowledge, to employ good philosophers, who fhould be hardy enough for the undertaking, to travel among their remotest nations, which have never had any intercourse with Europeans; to reside among them on a familiar footing; drefs and live as they do; and to observe them when they fhould be under no bias or constraint. We fhould then see whether there be any efsential difference between them and the tribes with which we are already acquainted. We fhould discover, in the comparison of their languages, their different degrees of improvement; their affinity with one another; and, at the same time, the objects with which each has chiefly conversed, that have occasioned a variety in their terms and phrases. But above all, we fhould discover the nature and extent of their religious ideas, which have been

ascertained with lefs accuracy than others, by travellers who have not known to set a proper value upon them.

There are within what are called the boundaries of the United States, twenty-eight different tribes of Indians. Their warriors are estimated at 10,000 men; though you will easily believe, that, from the little police and government that exists among them, such calculations cannot be very exact; but if this calculation fhould be 1000 men under or over the truth, it is the best we can obtain; for they are very jealous of persons whom they suspect to be attempting to count their numbers; and from the usual proportion of Indian families, the whole of their people cannot be above four times that amount.

Their employments and manners I must reserve till another opportunity, when I fhall give what information is in my power, or may be agreeable to you.

With regard to the inquiries you make respecting the inhabitants of the United States, I have to inform you that the different sects of religion agree better with one another here, than, perhaps, in any other part of the world; and this concord is daily becoming more perfect. Religious differences are in some measure buried in political interests. A few years before the late war, the several denominations, more zealous than they are at present, carried their mutual animosities to a greater height. They are beginning to treat one another with a degree of franknefs and confidence that has been seldom known before. I am afraid however that the effect is more laudable

than the cause from which it springs. Perhaps our charity is grafted on indifference. Not setting a very high value upon soundneſs of principle or strictneſs of discipline, we consider as trifles the varieties of sentiments that exist among the different denominations. No denominations being intitled by an establiſhment to treat the others with superiority; all mingling together upon an equal and familiar footing, we find men in every sect who reach the standard of piety and good morals which we have fixed in our ideas; and therefore are apt to conclude that the creed is immaterial if the life be good. I do not say that this mode of thinking is universal in America; particular places, especially in Pensylvania, and New England, are to be excepted. But you have judged rightly in supposing that this must be the general character of the Americans.

You aſk "whether there be an uniformity of doctrine among our ministers?" I have the pleasure to inform you that there is. There is the greatest harmony at present among the ministers of our synod. They profeſs to adopt the same standard of religious faith, I believe, in general, with great sincerity, and without modifications, and secret interpretations to accommodate the standard to oblique opinions. One reason of this is that this country affords few inducements to a man to enter into the church, and therefore few temptations to disguise his sentiments. The aſsuming of the ministerial office here, I mean within the synod of New York and Philadelphia, is generally the fruit of honesty, and a pious desire of doing good. But this

partial cause of a good effect, is also the cause of a very unhappy one;—too few young gentlemen of ingenuity and talents are induced to enter into the ministry; and of those who choose that profefsion, too few enjoy the necefsary motives to excite them to cultivate their talents to the best advantage.

You inquire "whether ministers are faithful in doing their duty? or whether they are restrained from it by their dependence on the people?" Happily the simplicity of the people, in general, renders a minister's discharging his duty with fidelity among them, almost the only source of his influence. And the people here are apt to think, that, if a minister be very independent of their good opinion, he will have, by many, fewer motives to the faithful discharge of his trust, especially if his own piety be not very warm, than he has in the present state of things. The same people who call a minister, although they have not the power of ejecting him without the concurrence of the presbytery, have yet the power of rendering him so unhappy, that he fhall be obliged to seek a dismifsion from them himself. They may with-hold his stipulated salary, or oblige him to sue for it at common law; which in the ideas of this country, will totally ruin his character, and destroy for ever his usefulnefs. One of the best securities which a man enjoys against this unhappy event, is a diligent and prudent discharge of his duty. If, by this means he confirms himself in the good opinion of the people, ministers are so rare, they will not easily part with him; but if they fhould be ill-natured, he, by seeking a dismifsion im-

mediately, and not altercating, may presently settle himself again, if he be a man of talents in a good parish. Almost every office in this country, literary, ecclesiastic, or civil, involves the same dependence on popular opinion, which is only to be preserved, as it has been acquired, by continual service. These ideas have sometimes shocked Dr Witherspoon, from the apprehension, that, if age or infirmity should render him incapable of service, it may be misconstrued into negligence by the people, who are seldom disposed to examine nicely, or to speak cautiously on such occasions ; and he may be liable to lose both the honour and reward of his past merits. This I hope and believe will never be the case. But the possibility of it, often affects him very sensibly, it is so contrary to his expectations when he left his native country, and to the ideas and habits that grew up with him there. Contrary habits and ideas have made the Americans in general think that such dependence and uncertainty is the most rational security they can have for the fidelity of official men. I do not absolutely justify the opinion ; but if it be attended sometimes with considerable evils, it is, in this country, also productive of some benefit.

To your last inquiry on the subject of ecclesiastical affairs I must answer, that the want of an establishment, and the spirit of high, and perhaps licentious liberty, in the country, reduces the power of our church government to little more than that of advice. There is at least no other means of compelling submission to the censures or awards of the

church, than what arises from the opinion which the subjects of them ascertain of their sacrednefs; or from that terror which exclusion from the privileges and society of the faithful carries with it to their consciences, or their sentiments of honour. We profefs to have uniform rules of church government, which are nearly the same with yours, only modified to the state of the country; but gentlemen accustomed to the exact order of the church of Scotland, would esteem them to be very laxly executed. For admifsion to the sacraments, particularly to that of the Lord's Supper, I fancy we are as strict in the qualifications we require, as you are in Britain; but we know little of the combats and jarring of sefsions and presbyteries, *&c.* which our clergy think often affect church order by destroying Christian charity. Almost every thing that relates to the peace and union of the members of the congregation with each other, is accomplifhed by advice and mediation. If this is ineffectual, we proceed to what other measures of reprehension or exclusion, the state and spirit of the people have left within the power of the rulers of the church.

When I speak of religion, I mean to speak of it as it is within our synod. The same observations, however, may be applied to great part of the New England churches, except that they govern more profefsedly by advice than we do; but wherever the church of England prevails, and that is over at least a fourth part of the continent, there is almost no attention paid to orthodoxy, to discipline, or almost

any other circumstance necessary to the good constitution, or orderly government of a church.

There is, unhappily, among all denominations, an indifference about religion, and a neglect of its ordinances, that is extremely affecting to pious minds. The civil power is too inattentive to the influence which religion would have on the good government of the state. They have a religion that satisfies their low ideas at present, and the Americans are not famous for looking forward to security, and forming their schemes, or planning their works for succeeding generations; and they piously believe, that heaven will take care of the church, if they take care of the state.

I could wish that America would learn wisdom from the example, or from the errors of other nations; but we are men, and I am afraid, like other men, must learn from our own experience, and consequently from our own misfortunes. When we shall be wise enough to discover those evils which we might have avoided, we shall be probably too corrupt to effect a reformation. I am, *&c.*

S——. S——TH.

A DETACHED REMARK.

STATESMEN and generals, merchants and manufacturers, may grow rich and great by unexpected accidents, and a fortunate concurrence of circumstances, neither procured nor foreseen by themselves; but excellence and reputation in the learned world must be the effects of capacity and industry.

GENERAL CRITIQUE BY ARCTICUS, ON THE EDITOR, AND WRITERS IN THE LAST SIX VOLUMES OF THE BEE.

Such a generous glow of honest friendſhip and undiſsembled patriotism, runs through the following letter, which criticises with equal freedom and good humour, the supposed errors of the Editor, and some of his correspondents, that he cannot insert it without expreſsing the grateful sense he entertains of the obligations he lies under to the writer of it. Whether the author be at all times just in his strictures, he does not pretend to say. Every reader is intitled to judge for himself in that respect; but as it gives a picture of the general mode of thinking of Britiſh subjects abroad, on Britiſh affairs, he ſhould think himself to blame, if he either concealed, softened, or altered a single article in the whole.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As I took the liberty of informing you of the general remarks made on the Bee at its first appearance in Ruſsia, I will with the same fraukneſs tell you those of to day. You may probably have remarked the enthusiastic veneration of most Britons for their happy constitution, who have lived long abroad in any country of the world, by comparing and contrasting it with those of other nations; I mean practical observations on the different effects of governments, on the liberty, property, and happineſs of the human species, not the theoretic ravings of *soi disant* philosophers, of what ours or other constitutions *ſhould be*. Now to this trait of human nature I impute the displeasure my friends expreſs, at several bilious papers in the Bee, evidently wrote by discontented men, who would not be displeased at

the completion of what every friend to his country ought to dread. It is the unanimous opinion of all of us who see coolly at a distance the efforts that are making to level your happy, flouriſhing, and proud island, with the rest of the world, that every good citizen ſhould lend his aid at this critical period, to support the Britiſh constitution and government, with all its real or supposed defects; especially at this time, when an old *sect, its avowed enemies*, are again trying their force, under cover of new lights and doctrines, which are well calculated to mislead the unwary. For I cannot reflect without horror, on the danger that real and virtuous liberty runs by the frantic manœvures of a set of slaves run mad. Is it not singular that the amiable French nation (for certainly they were once so,) can do nothing like other people, and must always run into extremes? It was this known trait in their character, which set them a forming a wild theoretic constitution, which all the philosophers in the world cannot go so far as determine *if it is practicable or not*, providing even that Frenchmen had steadineſs enough to keep to it, which is by no means the case; for I observe the new legislature, and Jacobin clubs, are more hostile to it than even *foreign powers* seemed to be, till they puſhed them to meddle decidedly in their affairs, whether they would or not, whilst they were confining their interference and league to save the royal family.

With all this, I am by no means an Antigalican, and few were more happy than myself at seeing the ancient despotism of that country overturned; but now

they are gone so far that almost any government would be better than what is now disgracing them; and I am decidedly of opinion that they are hurting efsentially the noble cause of liberty. We all highly approve, at the same time, that spirit of independence you are endeavouring to raise in Scotland *relative to trade*, and the abolition of certain impolitic fiscal regulations, like a true patriot, to better the state of the industrious poor; but we plainly see that the malevolent, under cover of your wing, are endeavouring to sap the foundation of the constitution, and preach up doctrines indirectly, which, if attended to, would soon put you in the situation of the unhappy country which is delivered up to lawlefs anarchy, confusion, and ruin, for at least half a century, by the wild declaration of the Gallic Rights of Man, and proclaiming the people sovereigns.

We were all much hurt at a note, inculcating the most execrable doctrine, of receiving money from foreign princes, to support rebellion against your native sovereign, and thought your remark upon it *too gentle*; for you certainly have an undoubted right, when you condescend to defile your work with such opinions, to reprobate the doctrine with the glowing language of true patriotism; and the virtuous part of the public will respect you for it, and support you against the venom of disappointed malice. I am sure Britain is not so far degenerated but that an hundred pens would defend the virtuous citizen who durst attempt to stem the torrent of certain *new tenets*, which men would have blufhed to have publifhed but a few years ago.

I must own, on taking leave of this subject, that from all I see brewing in your part of Europe, I tremble for the constitution which has been the glory of my life to think, and say, I was born under; and that as the effort of all its sons widely dispersed over the globe, is to get a competency which we hope to enjoy in security under its benign protection, where the hair of a man's head, nor a single tree on his estate, cannot be touched, either by the hand of power, or the wild grasp of democracy, the most savage, blind, and horrible of tyrants, it is discouraging to think, that our prospects run even the least risk of being blasted after all our labour.

I live in hopes some patriot writer will point out the dangerous tendency of such direct and indirect provokatives, to a people who, in the present crisis, have rather occasion for calmers: such as your judicious annunciation of a plan on the carpet to take off the internal duties on coal and salt, which would, if practicable, make your minister immortal; nay, even the attempt would point him out to future generations as the truest patriot who has ever governed the country,

It is flattering to myself to declare that I perfectly agree with you in all your propositions and *direct specific* charges, of fiscal, or other regulations, which, however innocently intended, do actually militate against the industry of the subject, and ought to be remedied *immediately*, if they do not materially affect the revenue; and if they do, a gradual modification ought to be tried, till they answer the double interest of the public creditor, and the industrious subject.

How different from such a well meant patriotic conduct are all those *indiscriminate general charges* and accusations of government, which make us look so little in the eyes of foreigners?—they cannot be calculated to do good, but to indulge the bile of discontented men, who, under the mafk of patriotism, feed John Bull with his favourite food, and which I think at present, ought to be a little moistened with the milk of human kindnefs, by those who really love their country.

Imperial Cadet Corps St Petersburgh, August 10. 1792. ARCTICUS.

ADDITIONAL MEMOIRS OF SIR W. LOCKHART.

Continued from p. 8.

SIR WILLIAM LOCKHART was one of those open, candid, generous, manly characters, which may be guilty of improprieties of conduct, but never of meannefs; he was therefore much esteemed in all situations, unlefs, perhaps, by his father, whose ideas of order and regularity had taken such deep hold of his mind, that he never could cordially approve of his son's youthful conduct. This circumstance, joined with some near family lofses, made his country lefs dear to him than it otherwise might have been. The following incident is highly characteristic. When in the French service, his spirited intrepidity attracted the notice of the queen mother, who sent him a commifsion, advancing him a step higher than he then occupied, with an elegant sword, accompanied with a polite mefsage, inviting him to court,

when the state of the army would permit it. Lockhart, some time after, went to court, and in the antichamber he recognised the person who had been the bearer of these favours to him; he immediately accosted this gentleman in that frank manner which was natural to him; but his appearance was now so different from that he bore in the camp, that the gentleman could not recollect that he had ever seen him before. Lockhart soon put him in mind of the transaction, and added, that he ſhould never forget the happineſs his meſsage had given him, and would be glad if he could make a return. The gentleman politely wiſhed him joy of his good fortune, and told him, with evident marks of deep regret, that he held the same place now as he had done before, and scarcely had any hopes that he ſhould ever be able to better it. Lockhart ſhook him kindly by the hand, said nothing particular then, went into court, and, before his return, had so effectually interested himself for his disconsolate acquaintance, that he was able to wiſh him joy, on his return, on being appointed to a higher place: nothing ever gave him so much pleasure as actions of this nature.

When the Protector offered him his niece, Miſs Sewster, in marriage, he found that he was in danger of losing her, as ſhe had been pre-engaged to another. But Lockhart, who valued life only when it could be enjoyed with reliſh, found it such a hard taſk to relinquiſh his hopes, that without hesitation, he resolved to give them up only with his life. He, therefore, waited upon the gentleman, told him without disguise that he must either resolve to give up his pretensions to that lady, or fight him; but

the gentleman, more cool, or more prudent than himself, declined the combat, and allowed him to carry off the lady in triumph, who seemed to be no-wise difsatisfied with losing so cool a lover, in exchange for the ardent soldier.

It does not often happen that matches of the nature of the present can be entitled to the name of love marriages ; nor does it always happen that love marriages turn out to the mutual satisfaction of the parties, in the future part of their lives. This marriage was a singular exception. The lady became the kind companion of her beloved hufband for the remainder of his life ; and he continued the fond hufband of this amiable woman till his dying hour. On this death, which happened in the Netherlands, in the year 1676, where it was supposed he was poisoned by a pair of gloves, it was found, that he had left her the guardian of his children, and intrusted their education to her care ; he also gave her the sole administration of all his affairs. She executed her trust with the greatest care and fidelity ; and her memory is so precious tothe family, that it has been constantly retained by her descendants. By this lady, Sir William had three daughters and seven sons ; first Robina, second Martha, third Elizabeth, fourth Cromwell, fifth Richard, sixth Julius, seventh William, eighth George, ninth John, tenth James, from whom is descended the present family of Lee.

Mr Lockhart had married at an early period of life, Mifs ———— Hamilton, daughter of Sir John Hamilton of Orbieston, one of the senators of the college of justice, who died very soon ; by her

he had one son, James, who died unmarried. Besides the offices formerly mentioned, he was made one of the Scotch judges in 1624, and commifsioner of forfeitures in Scotland: in 1674, he was appointed lord justice clerk in Scotland, which he enjoyed only two years. His body was brought to Leith, and was intered in the family burying place near Lanark.

EXPLANATION OF THE PHENOMENON RESPECTING THE CATERPILLAR. SEE BEE VOL. xi. p. 287.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THE curious phenomenon which your friend has so accurately described, is a circumstance in the economy of nature, with which all collectors of insects are well acquainted.—The caterpillar, which has produced so abundantly, had been stung, as the entomologists term it, by the *ichneumon glomeratus* of Linnæus; *i. e.* the parent ichneumon had deposited its eggs in the body of the caterpillar, where they hatched, and fed till the time of their change into the chrysalis state, at which period they spin the little cocoons. These will produce a small fly the next spring; as the season is now so late, that I think there is little chance of their hatching this autumn.

The tribe of ichneumon is very numerous, and the different species prove extremely troublesome to collectors; as they frequently are disappointed at the time a valuable caterpillar is expected to undergo its metamorphosis, it having previously been chosen by the parent ichneumon as a proper nidus for her valuable progeny. It is very remarkable, that though the cater-

pillar ſhews evident signs of great torture, while its intrails are devouring, it seldom dies, till the time the young ichneumons are arrived at the period of their change into the chrysalis state. It sometimes, however, happens that there are more of the ichneumon larvæ than the caterpillar can support the required time, in which case the whole family fall a prey to hunger.

MORAL REFLECTION BY MIRA.

For the Bee.

THERE are some people whom you cannot regard though they seem desirous to oblige you; nay, even though they do you actual services. This is the case wherever their sentiments are too widely different from your own. Thus, a person truly avaricious can never make himself perfectly agreeable to one enamoured with the arts and sciences. A person of exquisite sensibility and tenderneſs can never be truly pleased with another of no feelings, who can see the most intimate of his friends or kindred expire without any greater pain, than if he beheld a pitcher broken. These, properly speaking, can be said to feel nothing but the point of a sword; and one could more easily pardon them, if this apathy were the effect of philosophy, and not the want of thought; but with tempers thus different, one ſhould never attempt any close connection. Yet it may be a point of prudence to ſhow them civility, and allow them a toleration to their various propensities. To converse much with them, would not only be painful, but tend to injure your own disposition; and to aim at their applause, would only make your character inconsistent.

POETRY.

TO A FRIEND.

For the Bee.

FRIEND of my youth, ſhedd'st thou the pitying tear
  O'er the sad relicks of my happier days?
Of nature tender, as of soul sincere,
  Pour'st thou for me the melancholy lays?

Oh truly said!—the distant landscape bright,
  Whose vivid colours glitter'd on the eye,
Is faded now, and sunk in ſhades of night,
  As, on some chilly eve, the closing flow'rets die.

How vain the thought.—Hope after hope expires,
  Friend after friend, joy after joy is lost;
My dearest wiſhes feed the fun'ral fires,
  And life is purchas'd at too dear a cost!

Yet, could my heart the selfiſh comfort know,
  That, not alone, I murmur and complain,
Well might I find companions in my woe,
  All born to grief,—the family of pain.

Full well I know, in life's uncertain road,
  The thorns of mis'ry are profusely sown;
Full well I know, in this low vile abode,
  Beneath the chast'ning rod what numbers groan.

To them, alas! what boots the light of heav'n,
  While still new mis'ries mark their destin'd way:
Whether to their unhappy lot be giv'n,
  Death's long sad night, or life's ſhort busy day?

If e'er a gleam of comfort glads my soul,
  If e'er my brow to wonted smiles unbends,
'Tis when the fleeting minutes as they roll,
  Can add one gleam of pleasure to my friends.

Ev'n in these ſhades, the last retreat of grief,
  Some transient bleſsings will that thought bestow;
To melancholy's self yield some relief,
  And ease the breast, surcharg'd with mortal woe.

Long has my bark in rudest tempest toſs'd,
  Buffetted seas, and stemm'd life's hostile wave,
Suffice it now, in all my wiſhes croſs'd,
  To seek a peaceful harbour in the grave.

Then may my friend weep o'er the fun'ral hearse,
Then may his presence gild the awful g'oom;
And his last tribute be some mournful verse,
To mark the spot that holds my silent tomb.

This, and no more,—the rest let heaven provide,
To which resign'd, I trust my weal or woe,
Afsur'd, howe'er its justice fhall decide,
To find nought worse than I have left below. MIRA.

VERSES ADDRESSED TO A BLACKBIRD.

For the Bee.

HAST thou sweet bird drunk of oblivion's stream,
That thus thy sprightly lay ascends on high;
When yester morn pierced by the hunter's aim,
Thou view'd thy gentle fond companion die?

I mark'd thee flutter round thy breathlefs love,
And try to wake him by each varied note;
I wept to see thy efforts fruitlefs prove,
But thou already hast his death forgot.

Would I, like thee, could drink oblivion's wave,
Or bear with such indiff'rence ev'ry care!
Then fhould I cease to mourn o'er Edward's grave,
To bathe it with the tears of wild despair.

My thoughts no more would dwell on scenes of blifs,
When ev'ry moment fled on pleasure's wing;
For ah! remembrance adds to my diftrefs,
And sensibility my soul doth wring.

Mem'ry no more would Edward's death retrace,
Edward, the friend and hufband of my youth;
And from my mind oblivion would erase
His tender love, his constancy and truth.

What have I wifh'd for!—to forget my woe!
Forget the faithful partner of my heart!
Return rafh wifh, far rather would I know
Each agonising pang of mis'ry's dart.

Though sensibility has many a thorn,
And oft has call'd the tear into my eye;
My wounded bleeding bosom much has torn,
And heav'd it oft with sorrows saddest sigh;

The mournful goddefs still would I retain,
Ev'n when fhe loads me with a weight of grief;
Adds to my anguifh'd soul another pain,
I would not from indiff'rence find relief.

Indiff'rence! chilling pow'r! I hate thy name.
Thou art a stranger to each dear delight!
Thou never felt mild friendſhip's noble flame,
And angry love far from thee wings his flight.

At thy approach the social feelings fly,
And liſtleſs apathy the heart doth seek;
Soft Pity rises to her native ſky,
And Joy's bright tear no more bedews the cheek.

Goddeſs, avaunt! seize not upon my heart,
It oft has mourn'd with sorrow's hapleſs child;
It scorns the calmneſs which thou canst impart,
And is to sensibility resign'd.

Elvina.

VERSES TO PHILOMEL.

For the Bee.

Thou love lorn tenant of the woody hill,
Whose plaints remurmur down fair C—d—'s ſhore
In tender harmony,—oh now be still,
And tell the list'ning moon thy woes no more.

Ere late, till hopeleſs love had found my breast,
Thy mournful music warbling in the wind,
Could soothe each momentary care to rest,
And wake the soft emotions of the mind;

While smiling sympathy with humid eye,
Unhurt by any sorrows of its own,
Could lend to fancied woe a virtuous sigh,
And ſhed a tear at thy pathetic moan.

But ah! th' ideal scene is chang'd,—and, now,
For her own woes the tears of sorrow flow.

Armine.

EPIGRAM, BEE, VOL. XI. P. 66. TRANSLATED.

For the Bee.

'Tis death (the doctor sage declares)
T' indulge in gen'rous wine,
Nor will permiſsion grant, he swears,
To kiſs the nymph divine.

But if I must good wine renounce,
And girls both brown and fair too,
Adieu, good Sir! I must at once
The other world repair to.

ON LOTTERIES.

[*Translated from the French of Mr Robert.*]

What a plague! what a ruin in a government is the existence of lotteries! a thousand times worse than a tax of the same productivenefs to the revenue! In a well regulated state there are none;—there are none in Switzerland.

Lotteries discourage industry and activity; they devour the subsistence of the unfortunate; they blunt their activity by offering them a prospect of being able to live without gaining it by their work. Lotteries occasion bankruptcies and suicides, by hopes deceived in decisive moments! Lotteries are a snare held out to avarice; they support a slow fever in the politic body; they are, in fine, a public game, in which the prince plays against the most indigent clafs of his subjects, with unequal chances.

While millions of people occupy themselves with the combination of numbers,—whilst they are attentive to the numbers that have been drawn since a certain time,—whilst they are on the look out for those that seldom appear, or which have not appeared for a certain time, more or lefs distant; the very serious attention which they bestow on these objects, their anxiety on the fate of the next drawing, are so many drawbacks from what they owe to the state, to their businefs, and to their duty.

He that would apply with ardour to some profefsion profitable to himself and society, sleeps in the hopes that the lottery will provide, soon or late, for his subsistence; he finds it more aggreeable to trust his fortune to chance, than to the good use of his time.

Add to this, that by exciting in the mind of the indigent a false desire of riches. they make him feel more forcibly all the bitternefs of his poverty which they aggravate. Let us respect the unfortunate, and not abuse thus cruelly their credulity and their misery.

Lotteries, fatal to those whom they ruin, are equally so to those whom they enrich, or only when they are propitious for the moment. Money got without trouble, is expended without care; it gives a taste for dissipation and pleasure; it inspires an invincible disgust to work, to the detriment of individuals and of society. If they are large prizes, lotteries take away from commerce,—from the class of artificers and workmen, a useful body, to place them among idle people, and increase the supporters of vice. It is not conceivable how pernicious it is in a state, to open any other road to fortune than that of industry, labour, and merit. These unexpected fortunes, which fall all at once to indigence, occasion drunkenness, disorder, vice, and extravagance. These are great evils. They present a fatal example, an irresistible and deceitful attraction to the multitude, of whom they become the ruin.

Besides, these fortunate prizes irritate still farther the desire of the player; he believes himself born for a frotune without bounds; and in his delirium he gives back, successively, to the lottery, what dissipation has not yet devoured. His fall is only retarded a few moments.

Experience has but too well proved that lotteries influence prodigiously the moral character of a people. Can it be denied that this insidious game, after having robbed the people of the fruit of their labour, delivers them every moment to the temptations of recovering it, by every kind of means? They open the door to crimes. They excite desire; and when desire is irritated and deceived, despair; grief, and misery, know no bounds! Every day the allurement of the lottery provokes the infidelity of the son towards his father; it provokes the infidelity of the wife, become deaf to the cries of her children; it provokes the infidelity of servants to their masters; and the lotteries dissolve the domestic tyes, as they do those of society. They

precipitate to beggary, those whom they do not devote to crimes, and prepare an overcharge for the hospitals.

Lotteries are, besides, a real tax. Whether it is commanded by the sword, or by a foolish hope, the result is the same; it is a tax, commanded and perceived, with this difference, that the consequences of this are incomparably more fatal. We cannot too often repeat it,—lotteries are a wound in the body of the state, the depth of which has never been thoroughly examined.

And, by some fatality, these lotteries, which deceive thus those who engage in them, present only an imaginary resource to the revenue! The advantage which it is thought to derive from them, is entirely illusive and chimerical. If so many millions which the unfortunate throw into it, by denying themselves the necessaries of life, increased the daily consumption,—if these millions which make so many families miserable, tended to promote activity, and industry, and the national rights; the public treasure would then be more considerable, and it would not be so often exhausted.

But were the advantages derived from lotteries as real as they are indeed chimerical, a generous nation would scorn to make use of a branch of revenue of so destructive a tendency.

These then are the detestable fruits of lotteries. May we see them extirpated among us, even to the memory of them! and in the interval which separates us from their proscription, it is the duty of every good man to hasten their fall;—he would deserve a civic crown!

ON THE DISADVANTAGES ATTENDANT UPON GENIUS.

The disadvantages which a man of genius has to combat against are of so peculiar and malignant a nature, as

would almost stop him from exerting the powers which nature has endowed him with, did not his thirst for fame, and the hopes that futurity would pay these exertions that respect and reverence which they deserve, operate much more strongly than the prospect of any present injury, or the poisoned stings of secret malice. This I may say is one of his greatest foes; for the sting of the snake which Envy lets loose upon such occasions is commonly proportioned to the degrees of merit poſseſsed by the person envied. Hence he who has evidently superior abilities above the society that he commonly mixes with, if he has not that cunning or prudence, or call it what you will, which is absolutely neceſsary in his intercourse with the world, has commonly more enemies than other men; whereas he who is not a superior genius, but circumscribes his exertions to afford entertainment to his aſsociates and friends, has the satisfaction of seeing good humour and social merriment ſhed over every circle he mixes in, while he himself enjoys the sympathetic pleasure that springs from mutual intercourse, and commonly reigns supreme in every thing that is going forward.

On the other hand, the great genius has sometimes hours of the most exquisite pleasure,—pleasure arising from the conversation of enlightened men, the chastity of his own sentiments, the sublimity of his own ideas, and the contemplation of that universal harmony displayed in the works of nature. Big with thoughts of a higher nature than those which are common to most men, he cannot join the giddy throng, nor enjoy their amusements with that eagerneſs with which they are pursued. Though he feels this disadvantage, he cannot remedy the evil, his nature inclining him to despise those secondary enjoyments which proceed from company and inceſ-

sant visiting. But let not these considerations stop the budding genius from advancing in his studies. If he forms his nature after that amiable Pattern of virtue recorded in the pages of sacred history, where all sweetneſs and goodneſs were displayed, he will be blest with a disposition of good-will to the human race, and a temper moulded after that Divinity which stimulates him to proceed in these exertions, and for which posterity will ever bleſs his memory.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The improved edition of *Liberty Ball* came too late to be properly noticed, as the author will easily perceive. Our correspondents will please to advert, that we wiſh to be at least *three weeks* forward with the printing before the day of publication; by adverting to this circumstance they will be able to see the reason why our acknowledgements seem to be often so tardy. The chronicle only is kept back till nearly the time of publication.

The Editor is much obliged to *C. F.* for his ingenious hints, which he will endeavour to lay before the public in due time; but he fears many of his readers think they have had enough on that subject just now.

The observations by *D. C.* have more of a metaphysical cast than the Editor wiſhes for; but he will try to find room for them.

The same observation applies in a yet stronger degree to the ingenious eſsay by *Socius*.

However much the Editor may approve of the principles of *No Laird No Farmer*, he cannot think that his mode of bringing forward his propositions would have a tendency to effect the purpose he profeſsedly aims at. His petition ſhall have a place in the first spare corner.

Plorator and *Dabo* are received.

The very ingenious eſsay by *Mica* is thankfully received; but many of our readers will not wiſh to have more on that subject for some time. It ſhall not be lost sight of.

The communication by *Curiosus junior* came just in time, and ſhall be duly adverted to.

Elvina's favour is received; but the Editor considers himself as incapable of answering the query proposed, or he ſhould have done it with chearfulneſs. He hopes his readers will not think any apology neceſsary for the piece inserted in this number.

The hints by *Poverty* merit particular attention; but he will observe another correspondent has some time ago occupied the same walk, whose performances have been too long deferred. The subject is of such importance as to deserve every kind of elucidation.

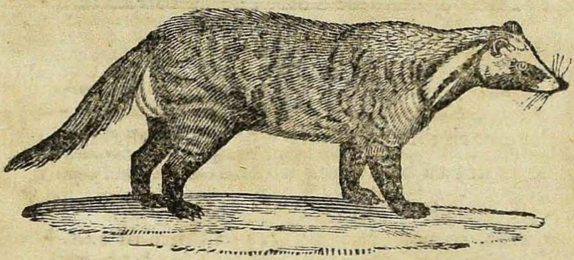
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28. 1792.



THE CIVET.

THE civet is the largest animal of the weasel kind. Its length from nose to tail is about two feet three inches, the tail is fourteen inches, and the body being thicker, and legs longer than most of the animals of this clafs. It has a very long nose like a fox, and whiskers like others of its own kind. Its eyes are black and beautiful; they fhine in the dark; and it is probable it can see well enough to pursue its prey during the night, as it is known to be most active during that period.

This animal is remarkable chiefly for the famous drug *mufk*, or civet, which it produces. This odorous substance is obtained from an overture between the pri-

vities and anus in both sexes. Numbers of them are kept in Holland for the purpose of yielding this drug. Those who keep them, provide for them a box for an habitation, and procure the muſk by scraping the inside of the box twice or three times a week with an iron spatula; and get about a drachm at each time. The quantity varies with its food. Boiled fleſh, eggs, rice, small animals, birds, and especially fiſh, are the kinds of food the civet most delights in; and these ought to be varied so as to excite its appetite, and preserve its health. The male yields the most; especially if it has been previously irritated.

A remarkable peculiarity of this animal is, that the male is not to be distinguiſhed from the female; for in the male nothing appears externally but three apertures, so perfectly similar to those of the female, that it is impoſsible to distinguiſh the sex otherwise than by diſsection. From this circumstance it has been supposed that this is the *hyena* of the ancients; and it is certain that most of the fables related concerning that monster, are in a certain way applicable to the civet.

The colour of the civet varies, but it is usually aſh, spotted with black; though in the female it is whiter and tending to yellow, and the spots are larger, like those of the panther.

The civet is a fierce animal, and though capable of being tamed in some degree, is never thoroughly familiar. It is a native of India, the Philippine islands, Guinea, Ethiopia, and Madagascar; but it can bear even the cold of Europe. In their native climate,

they breed very fast; but in our temperate latitudes they are not known to multiply. Its voice is stronger than that of the cat, and has some resemblance to the cry of an enraged dog. The teeth are strong and ſharp; but its claws are weak. It is very active and nimble, leaps like a cat, and runs with great swiftneſs. It lives by hunting, surprises small animals and birds, and like the weasel will sometimes steal into the yard and carry off the poultry. The perfume of this animal is so strong, that it infects every part of its body: the hair and the ſkin are so thoroughly penetrated with it that they retain it long after being taken from the body. If a person be ſhut up in the same apartment, it is almost insupportable; and when heated with rage it becomes still more pungent.

It is doubtful if the ancients knew the civet itself; though it is certain they were well acquainted with the pomatum, and ascribed to it certain powers of exciting love, for which purpose it still constitutes one of the luxuries of the east. It is probable it is to this perfume Horace alludes in describing the fine gentlemen in Rome, when he says, *Pastillo Rufillus olet*: *Rufillus* smells *of perfumes*.

ON THE USE AND EFFCTS OF ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE FOODS.

For the Bee.

CONCERNING the nouriſhment proper for mankind, as well as in regard to all our other wants, powers, and component parts, there are certain common place no-

tions, stamped as it were with a general and antiquated approbation, and adopted as infallible matters of experience, which yet are nothing leſs than generally just. In the number of these hackneyed maxims may be reckoned this: that the use of fleſh meat, renders men strong and courageous or even cruel; and, on the contrary, that the use of vegetables makes them weak, gentle, or even cowardly. But we are taught by the history of mankind, that these and similar propositions ſhould undergo considerable limitations before they are currently admitted.

In the first place, a great number of nations and tribes might be named, in whom these pretended effects of animal food do not at all appear. The inhabitants of the most northern parts of Europe and Asia, the Laplanders, Samoides, Ostiacs, Tunguses, Buræts, and Kamtſhadales, as well as the inhabitants of the most northern and southern promontories of America, the Esquimaux, and the natives of Terra del Fuego, are to be reckoned among the smallest, ugliest, and most dastardly and feeble people on the face of the earth; and yet all these nations not only live almost entirely on animal food, but that mostly raw, and without any preparation *. The Buræts, says Mr Pallas †, are not only diminutive and of a feminine look, but are also so weak, that six Buræts, with the utmost exertions of their

* I forbear to cite authorities for this, both because the fact is well known in Ruſsia, and because they may be seen by every writer on this subject.

† Pallas Mongolian tribes, vol. i. p. 171.

force, cannot perform so much as a single Rufsian. Again, if you take one of equal size with a Rufsian, you will find him much lighter, or lefs solid and compact than the Rufsian. Boys at an age, when among the latter, one can scarcely lift with both hands, we may easily, among the Buræts, take them up with one hand from the ground, and hold them suspended in the air. A proportionable lightnefs is seen likewise in grown persons; for when a Rufsian has rode his horse quite jaded, the beast will directly set off again, if mounted by a Buræt. And these effeminate, feeble, and light Buræts, like the rest of the Siberian pagans, live almost entirely on animal food, the constant and unqualified use whereof, (as Mr Pallas likewise thinks,) may easily be considered as the cause of this very weaknefs and unsolidity of the Buræts and their brethren.

As little now as the frequent use of animal nourifhment produces strength and courage, so little is the eating of vegetable food connected with weaknefs and cowardice. Just in the very times of the greatest simplicity, manlinefs, and valour, the Greeks and Romans fed almost entirely on an artlefs porridge *; and a similar diet, or even nothing but bad bread, is still the nourifhment of almost all the Sclavonian nations in Europe, and of many of the inhabitants of Italy †; and yet these people are to be clafsed with those that are most conspicuous for muscular strength.

* Pliny, lib. xviii. cap. 7. Aristot. politic. lib. vii. cap. 10. Goguet, tom. iii. ch. 3. art 1. Valerius Maximus lib. ii. chap. 2. 5.

† Von Taube, tom. i. p. 64. Sulzer, tom. ii. p. 370. Schintz, tom. i. p. 159.

Though the Illyrians feed hardly, dwell in miserable huts, and mostly in marſhy and unwholesome regions, and upon the whole are a heavy and ſluggiſh race, yet it is no difficult matter for them to bring down the monstrous oxen of their fertile country by repeated strokes of their brawny fist *.

That the negroes excel almost all the Europeans in bodily powers, needs no demonstration; and yet these strong negroes, both in Africa and America, live more upon vegetables, than either fiſh or fleſh †. It is the same with the inhabitants of the South Sea islands, and the Marian isles ‡; of whom all the European travellers agree, that they would not choose to try their strength with them. The former, and especially the inhabitants of the Friendly isles, displayed such an astoniſhing agility and force, in wrestling and boxing, that they presently knocked or threw down the strongest and most expert of the Engliſh sailors. Even women took the Engliſh under their arm, in order to transport them over deep streams and rivers. With equal strength, the inhabitants of the Marian isles, took every one his man, of the Europeans that had strayed from their brethren, and ran with them to their habitations with incredible ease. The strength of the latter is so extraordinary, that they can throw stones, by the

* Taube, ubi supra.

† Des Marchais, tom. i. p. 293. Projart, tom. i. p. 11. 14. De Manet, tom. i. p. 79. 87.

‡ Cook's last voyage, vol. i. p. 246. Forster's observations, p. 351. Voyage i. 315. Gobier, 46. 55.

mere force of their arms, deep into the solid trunk of full growing trees*.

Every person that has before him the instances related by travellers on these subjects, is almost forced to draw these consequences from them,—that the use of pure animal food is extremely prejudicial to the nature of man, as that the vegetable diet is very beneficial; and that the former is as much productive of weakneſs as the latter is of strength. These conclusions, however, would be as partial and false as the common place maxim mentioned at the beginning of this eſsay. For if we compare the facts adduced with others, we ſhall find, that we can reasonably conclude no farther from them, than that animal foods do not always beget strength, and vegetable not always weakneſs; and that neither the one nor the other are alike suitable to all climates and constitutions, or produce in them similar effects.

Soil and climate, alone or principally, determine the noxiousneſs or utility of vegetable and animal nutriment. As both are immensely different in different regions of the earth, so we may truly affirm, that the use of mere animal foods are as natural and wholesome in certain countries, as the vegetable diet is in others; and that both are equally unnatural and noxious in various climates.

The colder the climate, and the more unfruitful the soil, so much the more suitable and beneficent is the use of almost unqualified animal food. Whereas the hotter the climate, and the more fertile the soil, so much the more common is the eating

* Gobier, loc. cit.

of vegetables, and the greater is their utility. Mankind, upon the whole, however inconsistent they may seem, have every where, in regard to food, cloathing, and lodging, submitted to the laws of the inexhaustible varieties of nature; and, if we meet with striking deviations from these laws, yet we almost always find, that even these seemingly unnatural exceptions have their natural causes.

If it was the design of nature that the dreary wastes and wilds of Lapland, the naked ſhores of the frozen ocean, which bear neither tree nor ſhrub, the coasts of Greenland and Labrador, covered with eternal ice, and the horrid desarts of Terra del Fuego, not to mention other countries of similar effect, ſhould ot remain totally uninhabited by man, how could ſhe have made the use of mixed nouriſhment a neceſsary and inviolable law to the human race? Whence was man to procure the nutritive plants, or roots, or fruits of trees, in regions where the bosom of the earth is bound up for the greatest part of the year; and its surface either covered with a height of snow, or hardened by a depth of frost, or is totally deprived of all fertility? Providence, with adorable wisdom, rather created the human body of such complying materials, that it yields to every climate, aſsumes the impulse of every zone, and can satisfy the new wants arising from local alteration, without danger of destruction. The constant use of fleſh meats is as natural and salutary to the inhabitants of Terra del Fuego, the Esquimaux, the Samoides and their brethren, as the most choice combinations of vegetable and animal provisions are to us. With-

out this animal diet, which necefsity prescribes to these nations, their blood would not receive that richnefs of oleaginous and igneous particles, by which, alone, they are enabled to resist the dreadful cold of the country they inhabit. In the huts of the Greenlanders, and other natives of the frigid zone, no fire is seen, but the flames of the lamps that are kept burning by the several families *. The little warmth which these lamps diffuse, would be swallowed up by the Greenland cold, like drops by the ocean, were it not for the constantly equal warmth, or rather heat, produced by the vapours of the human body. This heat arising from the exhalations of the Greenlanders is so great, that the Europeans not inured to it, are in danger of being suffocated by it, or at least of fainting. The Rufsian jœgers, or hunters, who pafs the winter in Nova Zembla, are forced to adopt the practice of the Samojedes, by drinking frefh rein deer blood, as well as eating its flefh, for subsisting in this otherwise inhospitable country, and preserving themselves from dangerous distempers. But lest the great accumulation of phlogiston in the blood, produced by the incefsant use of flefh meats, fhould engender putrid diseases, and not merely excite a salutary heat, benignant nature has bestowed on the otherwise tremendous polar countries, a pure ætherial atmosphere, which greedily imbibes the noxious superfluity of phlogiston; and by its antiseptic quality must counteract the putridity arising in animal substances.

To be continued.

* Crantz, p. 187.

TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOGI'S SARASVATI

FROM ISABELLA TO ALBERT.

LETTER FOURTH.

I HAVE now learnt the art of becoming beautiful, my dear brother! I had got the secret before my last was written; but thinking you would be better pleased with Mrs Bruhl's *non descript*, I postponed an account of it till now. When I come home you will see if I profit by the lefsons I have got.——I dare not consult my mirror; for that, it seems, would difsolve the whole charm;—the only mirror I am allowed to consult, when I wifh to know if my looks have attained the highest beauty of which they are capable, is the eye of the persons who live in the same family with myself; every other substance that reflects the image of a face is false, my kind instructor says, and highly fallacious;—but this mirror, if properly consulted, will never deceive. I have not yet ventured to consult directly that faithful monitor here as yet, for fear of the consequences; but I sometimes give a stolen glance at it as I pafs, like some ladies you have seen who eye themselves afkance as they pafs the parlour mirror; and I begin to think that appearances are rather favourable than otherwise: but I must not be too sanguine for fear of disappointments.

We were not well set down at work next day after I wrote to you on that head, when I put Mrs Drury in mind of her promise; for in the interval I had been reflecting on the subject, and was anxious to know if I had formed just notions on that head.

She smiled, and said, "Yes, Isabella, I thought you would not forget what I had said; and were you not a very good girl, or if I had any occasion to punifh you, I fhould now have a good opportunity of doing it, by refusing to grant your request at this time; but since you are so very good, you fhall be immediately indulged." I could not omit this compliment, you know, because one always wifhes to fhow that they are thought well of by those they esteem.

"Long before Lavater was born," said Mrs D. "mankind, in every country, had found out that there was a certain undescribable something which gave to the human countenance a charm that was in the highest degree interesting. Sometimes the plainest set of features by pofsefsing this *je ne sçai quoi*, as the French term it, became so excefsively pleasing, that those who looked on them could hardly take their eyes off; and continued to admire more and more, every time they beheld that countenance, which at the first glance they thought homely; while it as often happens that the most brilliant complexion, joined to the finest features, which inevitably attract the attention at the first glance, convey such an ungracious exprefsion, as not to admit of being viewed for any continuance of time, without a very unpleasing kind of sensation. Now, my dear, I wifh to know which of these two countenances you would say is most beautiful,—that which you could look at for ever with increasing pleasure, —or that which you was obliged to turn from in a fhort time with disgust?" 'Certainly,' said I, 'I

ſhould think the first the most beautiful.' "I am glad of it, my dear; for in that case you would much rather wiſh to be like the *first*, homely, but engaging, than like the *last*, brilliant, but disgusting."——Will you believe it, Albert?—I could not here give my aſsent without hesitation.—That abominable word, HOMELY, stuck in my throat; and had it not been for the dreadful word, DISGUSTING, I ſhould perhaps have hesitated longer: but pulling up all my resolution, I at length answered, 'Most certainly.' Mrs D. I could observe, remarked my embarraſsment, by a significant smile, which, I could easily feel, brought a fluſh into my countenance that quite disconcerted me;——but taking no farther notice of it ſhe went on.

"This *je ne sçai quoi*, which you may have heard so often in the mouths of fooliſh people, is nothing else but that expreſsion of the mind which infallibly and indelibly marks the countenance of every human being. If all within be calm, serene, and mild, whatever be the form of the features, the countenance will aſsume a serene, and mild, and beneficent expreſsion, which comes to be more and more striking, and more and more engaging every time it is viewed; but if, under the fairest outside, be lodged a mind tormented with envy, puffed up with pride, elated by vanity, or distracted by unruly paſsions, these hateful affections will soon come to leave indelible traces on the countenance, which the finest ſkin cannot conceal, nor the most beautiful arrangement of features overcome. Agreeably to this notion, the poet justly says,

What's female beauty, but a ray divine,
Through which the mind's all gentle graces ſhine?
They, like the sun, irradiate all between:
The body *charms*, because the soul is *seen*.
Hence men are often captives of a face,
They know not why, of no peculiar grace:
Some forms, though bright, no mortal man can *bear*;
Some, none *resist*, though not exceeding *fair*. YOUNG.

If then you wiſh to poſseſs this enviable charm, you must attend to the operations of the mind, regardleſs of those cosmetics which can only add a temporary lustre to the ſkin. Check the very beginnings of every harſh and disorderly paſsion; for it as infallibly will mark the countenance as the stroke of a painter's bruſh would mark the pannels of a room; but unfortunately it cannot be so soon effaced. Every time that such paſsions tyrannise over the heart, they make freſh impreſsions on the countenance; so that those who indulge them often, and to a high degree, come to have these disorderly affections so strongly perceptible in the general expreſsion of the countenance, as to prove extremely disagreeable; while the person whose mind is ever at peace,—who has no wiſh but to promote the welfare of others, who delights in acts of beneficence, whose purity of mind is preserved by a continued contemplation on the ineffable perfections of the supreme Being, whose hopes are excited and fears allayed by the prospect of a bleſsed immortality, feels at all times such an unaffected calmneſs of mind, as to throw into the whole countenance a mild glow of beneficence, which is continually serene, and ineffably pleasing to contemplate."—While ſhe uttered this last part of the sentence, her countenance glowed with a holy

kind of ardour; her eyes glistened with a mild suffusion of moisture; her voice became open, mellow, and still more delightfully charming than its usual. I could not help grasping her hand with eagernefs to prefs it to my lips!—The tear started into my eyes.—My heart was like to burst, till at length I sobbed like a child, and was obliged to hide my face upon her lap. Why, my dear Albert, fhould one when their mind is in an extacy of pleasure, be compelled to exprefs it nearly in the same way as if they were agonised with pain?——But the tears that one fheds on these occasions, are of a very different sort.

A pause of some minutes here ensued; and when at last I recovered myself, fhe cast her eye upon me, full of the most ineffable sweetnefs, and, thus, went on:

"Every body knows that while they are under the immediate influence of any strong pafsion, the exprefsion of the countenance is affected by it at the time; and, therefore, however much they may indulge these pafsions in *private*, they study to put them out of sight in *public*. A woman who has been railing her servants for hours, tormenting her children, or scolding her hufband, if fhe hears a rap at the door,—hastens to the mirror,—adjusts her head drefs,—smooths her features, and meets the visitor with a smiling countenance. In doing this, fhe thinks all is well, believing that the stranger will perceive nothing of the disturbance fhe has occasioned; and fhe flatters herself that the forced smiles fhe afsumes will be mistaken for the mild effusions of good humour, and the undifsembled proofs of do-

mestic tranquillity. She would fain persuade herself that ſhe may put on a new face as ſhe can a new cap. False delusion! Nothing is more impoſsible. Like the fooliſh ostrich, which, when pursued, hides its head among the reeds, and because it sees not itself the object it dreads, it hopes that the pursuer will not see it. These persons only deceive themselves, but no one else. The traits that have been impreſsed on the countenance in private, continue to be perceptible in public; and by their being so frequently retraced, they soon become so distinct, that the most undiscerning beholder can trace them. Here, then, my dear, is my great secret;—*be really and sincerely good, and without affectation good humoured, and you will infallibly appear pleasing.* You, I thank heaven for it, have little occasion for the leſson; your mind is as yet tender, beneficent, and kind. Cultivate these affections with care; not for the purpose of ostentation, for there also you will be disappointed. Nothing but the *real* poſseſsion of good dispositions, and the habitual exertion of these in the inmost receſses of the family, can ever insure that enchanting expreſsion of countenance which is sure to captivate all beholders. I warn you now, however, to be exceſsively on your guard against indulging the first beginnings of peeviſhneſs, vanity, or domineering haughtineſs. No person exists who does not at times feel a propensity to these in a certain degree. Check the very beginning of them; for at the beginning this is easily done; but after a little indulgence it becomes impoſsible. How many a young creature have I seen, who, by inadvertently indulging at first trifling gusts of humour, have

gradually fallen into habits that blasted their happiness in this world for ever, even where the heart itself was naturally just, beneficent, and kind."

Here ſhe stopped. A solemn silence ensued for several minutes. We were all deeply affected with what ſhe said. *My* mind retraced my past conduct. I felt, to my ſhame and regret, that I had on many occasions been inattentive to these circumstances, especially while I was at the boarding school, where I met with so many objects that chagreened my temper. I was alarmed lest these uselefs indulgences had made impreſsions already on my countenance, that could not be effaced.—My eyes accidentally were turned towards Mary; but hers met mine with such an encouraging mildnefs of sympathy, that I felt a pleasure greater than I can exprefs. Mrs D. at that moment resumed her discourse.

" I was pretty far advanced in life," said ſhe, " before I had adverted to these things myself; but I had the happinefs to live with parents whose kindnefs and judicious conduct to me, would have left me without excuse, if I had ever fallen into fits of ill humour. Being happy at home, I had little temptation of falling into excefses, that many of my companions could with greater difficulty avoid. But I recollect perfectly the circumstance that first led my mind into the train of thought I now pursue.

" Soon after I was married, as I attended a solemn confirmation in the church, where the biſhop officiated, [a confirmation, said ſhe to me, my dear, is a sacred rite in our church, by which young persons

when they come to be able to understand the nature of the engagements they are to come under, have the purport of their baptismal vows explained to them; and solemnly, in the face of the congregation, take the vows upon themselves, and thus have their baptismal covenant voluntarily confirmed,] when I was excefsively struck with the inimitable beauty of a girl who was brought there to be confirmed. Her features were fine, her complexion pure as the first tints of the morning. Innocence, devotion, and humility, were the only exprefsions that beamed in her countenance; and when her hat was removed, a gentle timid blufh cast such an ineffable sweetnefs over the whole, that all the congregation was lost in silent admiration. I think it is impofsible to form an idea of any object on earth that could be more purely angelic. I was attached to her by an irresistible impulse of kindnefs; my eye followed her wherever fhe went; and you may believe it was not long before we discovered who fhe was. I found fhe was the daughter of a gentleman in our near neighbourhood;—we cultivated his acquaintance, and the little innocent soon became my frequent visitor.

" Unfortunately, however, those very charms proved to her a very great misfortune. Not that fhe was betrayed, by that means, into the snares of vice; for in that respect fhe was irreproachable. But being naturally a girl of high spirits and great vivacity, the admiration fhe met with raised her spirits to a higher pitch than otherwise would have been the case. She gradually became

vain, haughty, and imperious. Some persons yielded to her freaks with unaſsuming submiſsion; others, offended, resented her behaviour. If ſhe was not idolized, ſhe considered it as an affront; and the irritability of her temper was thus kept perpetually on the fret. In public places ſhe received unbounded homage. There alone, ſhe reigned in the fulneſs of glory. At home ſhe did not obtain the same submiſsive obeiſsance; but, like another mortal, met sometimes with opposition, and mortifying contradictions. Home was therefore an irksome prison to her; and all her relations and domestics were accounted her tormentors. By a continuance of these mortifying interferences, her temper became soured; the heavenly expreſsion of her countenance gradually went off; and with it, while ſhe was but very young, the beauty that had so highly attracted every body, began to disappear. Young men, tired of that imperious sway ſhe seemed desirous of exercising, kept aloof from her. She was at last courted by a stranger, who, after a better acquaintance, left her in no very handsome manner. Every one now forsook her; and before ſhe had attained the age of thirty, ſhe was deserted by the men, and criticised by all the women. She was as an outcast on the earth, without a friend on whom ſhe could rely, and without a comforter to mitigate the pains of life. At last ſhe married a man undeserving of her, who courted her for the money ſhe had; and ſhe has since sunk into the most mortifying state of neglect. How often have I wiſhed it had been in my power

to save her !—but that probably would have been impofsible, had I even remained in the same place; but as I chanced, soon after I became acquainted with her, to go into another part of the country about an hundred miles distant, this kindnefs was put entirely out of my power.—Thus was lost to the world, to her friends, and to herself, a woman who might have been an ornament to society, the pride of her friends, and a comfort to her family. Without a disposition of mind; calculated to relifh happinefs one's self, it is impofsible to communicate happinefs to others. She is unhappy without being guilty of vice, merely by having neglected in time to cultivate those affections of the mind, which alone can confer lasting beauty to the countenance, and communicate unabating charms to the understanding."

You will perhaps call this a sermon, but I fhould be glad to attend the church every day to hear such a sermon. Call it à female sermon if you please; and then tell me if females have not a right to sermonize, in private at least. Adieu ! I ever am yours sincerely.

ISABELLA.

ON REVENUE LAWS. No. III.

I HAVE fhown in my former paper, [vol.x. p. 322.] that smuggling is a certain attendant on high duties, and that it is highly detrimental to the happinefs of the people: it is equally certain that it is extremely pernicious to the revenue of government; and I doubt not that we fhall find it does more hurt to the last, than

the equivalent of the surplus of duty, by which it is occasioned.

There are two ways in which smuggling hurts the publick revenue;—by diminifhing the legal importation of the commodities smuggled; and by lefsening the advantages derived to the publick from the industry of individuals. I fhall examine these separately.

1st, The consumption of spirits, or other goods of the kind, smuggled, would be increased by means of the price being reduced, which would take place if smuggling were destroyed by lowering the duties, in a proportion exactly equal to the difference betwixt the profits of the smuggler, and those of the fair trader, provided the duties were just lowered to a degree sufficient to effect the purpose, and no more; for it is only a difference of price, equal to that additional profit, that keeps up smuggling; immediately on that difference being done away, the fair trader steps into the fhoes of the smuggler. If the duties were lowered more than the degree necefsary to prevent smuggling, an additional reduction of price, and consequently an additional increase of consumption, would take place.

The quantity of foreign goods consumed in a country, must necefsarily consist of the three following descriptions; *goods legally imported*, *goods smuggled*, *and goods sold by the revenue officers*, *having been seized in the attempt to smuggle.*

The first of these clafses is the only one for which government draws the full duty; and if smuggling

were put a stop to, it would comprehend the whole of the foreign articles consumed.

For goods smuggled, the revenue receives nothing; of course the duty that would be paid on those that are now of that description would be a clear gain.

For the seized goods that are sold by the revenue officers, the government receives one half of the neat proceeds; the other half goes to the revenue officers.

Five hundred ankers of gin, at the price usually brought at the Custom-house sales, would produce about -	L.1380 0 0
One half of which goes to the crown, *viz.* -	690 0 0
Five hundred ankers contain about 4875 gallons, usually of the strength of about 1 in 3 below the standard at which spirits can be legally imported, which is equal to 3656 gallons of that strength: from which may be deducted 5 *per cent.* for allowances by officers and other contingencies; and the duty would then be payable, if that quantity were legally imported, on about 3463 gallons at 5 s. 10 d. at present: but I suppose, to suppress smuggling entirely, the duty would require to be reduced to 4 s. 8 d. *per* gallon; in which case that quantity would produce, - -	813 0 0
Yielding a clear surplus of - - -	L.123 0 0

Equal to nearly 18 *per cent.* increase.

Hence it is to be concluded, that unlefs 1 s. 2 d. *per* gallon, the sum which I propose fhould be taken off the duty on spirits, on the quantity at present legally imported, be equal to a duty of 4 s. 8 d. *per* gallon on the whole quantity smuggled, and 18 *per cent.* on the whole account of the king's moiety of the spirits that are sold at the revenue sales, the government loses money by not adopting the alteration proposed. Now I think it a mounts to a certainty, that the 1 s. 2 d. is far fhort of such quantity; for I believe the quantity of the spirits sold at the revenue sales, themselves, without minding the quantity got off by the smugglers, far exceeds the whole quantity legally imported into Scotland at the present time. Though not being pofsefsed of such extracts from the Customhouse and Excise books as to ascertain the exact quantities, I cannot lay them before my readers. These extracts can be easily got by persons of influence interesting themselves in the subject; and to such, I humbly recommend it as an object in which they may efsentially serve their country; and I hope the consideration of the axioms which I have laid down, will not be unworthy of employing a small portion of the time of many persons, capable of turning the inductions to much better account than I can.

I come now to the *second* manner in which the smuggling, consequent on high duties, proves pernicious to the public revenue.

There is a certain revenue accrues to a nation from the labour of the people. This revenue is employed in procuring them the necefsaries or luxuries

of life; and the greater such revenue is, the more plentifully are they supplied with those. The more the people enjoy the advantages of a great revenue, the more duty they pay to government; for the duties are all laid on the articles of consumption in a country, directly or indirectly. A man may subsist on L. 10 *per annum;* but if his income enables him, he will expend much more,—perhaps L. 20; in which case he pays, in addition, to government, all the duties imposed on the additional articles that he consumes, to the value of L. 10.

In the expences necefsary for smuggling, there is a great deal of money expended, which would be otherwise saved, and of course it is entirely lost to the nation. This lofs consists in the following or similar articles:

1*st*, The surplus cost of a smuggling lugger. Such a vefsel costs always more, by perhaps twenty or forty *per cent.* than a vefsel of the same burden to be employed in legal commerce.

2*d*, The extraordinary expence of navigating such a lugger, which amounts usually to two or three times as much as that of navigating another vefsel.

3*d*, The whole value of the workmanfhip of a vefsel when fhe is seized in smuggling, and condemned to be taken to pieces, which is usually the case.

4*th*, The expences in carrying goods to places of concealment, and time lost in evading the search of revenue officers.

Hence it evidently appears, that the profit of a smuggler cannot be equivalent to the lofs that government sustains in not receiving the duties; be-

cause he is put to all this expence above what he would if he imported the goods legally. If, therefore, he has a profit to enable him to continue the business, government is the primary bearer of that expence, in losing duties equivalent to it; but if the smuggler loses by the undertaking, he is the primary sufferer of the whole, and government the secondary sufferer of part; and that part is, as shown above, just equal to the duties payable on the ordinary articles of consumption to the amount; because the revenue of the smugglers, and of course that of the nation, is so much diminished; by which they are constrained to reduce the expence of their living in an exact proportion.

It has been observed by Mr Smith, that when a nation is advancing in the acquirement of stock, the number of inhabitants generally increase, in consequence of the great encouragement that is held forth for breeding the human species, (so to speak;) and when the accumulated stock is decreasing, an opposite effect is produced. Almost every part of the operation of smuggling tends to produce the latter of these defects.

It has been already pointed out, in how great a degree dissipation, or, in other words, spending more money than the party in reality can afford to spend, is encouraged by smuggling. When a smuggler has his pockets full with the gains of his recent adventures, he spends it at all hands,—he enjoys every superfluity that money can purchase,—and lives like a person who has landed property, yielding him a certain revenue *per* month, equal to that which the

smuggler has gained in the preceding month. If such riches were permanent, they would no doubt encourage a man to marry, and when he was married he would expend part of his fortune in giving to his offspring an education suited to their situation in society. But with him it is quite the reverse. He lays not up the money he has, as an insurance against future loſses; he is a prince to-day, and a beggar to-morrow; he has no encouragement to settle in a fixed habitation, nor to rear a family of young children to be an honour to him. His mind is so corrupted by repeated acts of diſhonour, the unavoidable consequence of his employment, that he has little reliſh for the honourable or respectable society of his neighbourhood. Swindlers and desperadoes form the companions of his table; and the bagnio is the seat of his pleasures. If such a man marries, he renders his family miserable; his wife is often a woman habituated to the society of the dregs of the people; and his children are educated in such a manner as to become vagrants, and propagators of diſhonesty and corruption.

There are many, I am aware, who will consider all this as being merely speculative; but I beg of them not to be raſh. The links that bind society are of a very delicate nature; and on looking with attention into history, or into the world around us, we ſhall often find that the welfare of nations depends on circumstances apparently but very trifling; and had such circumstances been attended to with due caution, the Popes had never reigned in Rome.

nor would Carthage now have been the seat of pirates.

I ſhall perhaps request the indulgence of the Editor of the Bee a little farther, and at a future period say something of the manner of making sales of goods at the Customhouse and Excise Offices, which has much connection with the subject of which I have now treated.

Leith, 1792. TRADER POLITICAL.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

" THE late king of France, rallying one of his eminently learned and accompliſhed courtiers, on his attachment to books, to philosophy, and literature, said to him: " *A quoi donc sert la philosophie?*" ' *Sire!*" replied he, ' *elle fait a mon esprit ce que vos perdrix font a mes joues.*'

Admirable answer! Philosophy and literature are the food of the soul, and without them the spirit of a man becomes emaciated and deformed. Are women exempted from this remark?

By no means.—A woman whose mind does not receive the same nouriſhment, must soon cease to be a rational creature.

A beautiful toy at best when ſhe is young:—if without it, in old age, ſhe must become a cumberer of the earth.

B.

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LARGO BAY.

For the Bee.

The following little poem having been ſhewn to a friend, he thought it a pity that a youthful eſsay poſseſsing so much merit, ſhould be ſuppreſsed merely on account of its length; on his entreaty the Editor has resolved to insert the whole, though a few lines of it had been admitted into a former number of this work.

THY mountain, Largo, and thy spacious bay,
Invite the muse.—Awake my humble lay!
With larks awake, and join the morning song;
To them the notes,—to thee the words belong.
Yon gilded canopy, and orient beams,
In radiant pomp the rising sun proclaims;
Tree, buſh, and flow'r reflect the glorious blaze,
Ten thousand dew-drops variegate the rays;
Ten thousand birds, rejoicing at the sight,
Spring from their nests, to praise the god of light;
Enlighten'd nature the strong impulse feels,
The great machine moves all her living wheels.
  From yonder village spiral columns rise
Of tow'ring smoke;—far higher in the ſkies
Tow'rs Largo Law;—a mighty cone, whose base
Five hundred acres spread; whose summits graze
Five hundred ſheep.—That summit could we gain,
To view the distant hills, th' adjacent plain,
The boundleſs ocean and the bounded bay,
With all the windings of the Forth and Tay,
How wou'd my muse, transported at the sight,
O'er the gay landscape wing her raptur'd flight!
Ev'n now ſhe feels the hill's attractive pow'r,
A minute gains the travel of an hour.
Our steps the heath elastic scarcely bend,
And clouds retire as we the hill ascend:
The summit gain'd:—hail! glorious prospect, hail!
Hail each blue mountain, every verdant vale!
There Grampian hills the compact range extend,
Guard of the North, thy Caledon defend
Nor England's force, nor all that Rome e'er knew,
Or Scandinavia, could thy sons subdue;
Unconquer'd still thy Caledon remains,
Firm are her mountains, rich her fertile plains:
And thou, sweet Tay, in silent windings flow,
Reflect the hills, refreſh the plains below;
A thousand riv'lets follow in thy train,
To pay their tribute to the German main;
The German main yon bow of azure forms
In eastern pomp, triumphal arch of storms!
Pedestals firm the swelling segment bound;
This rests on Scottiſh, that on Engliſh ground.
There Chevoit mountains, like to clouds of mist,
Rise in the south, proud of their sable crest;

Here Pentland hills, and the great Authur's seat,
Array'd in green, nor envy those their jet.
Green are thy banks, O Forth, and deep thy tides,
Soft flow thy waves, and sweet are both thy sides;
But, ah! how chang'd when once the eastern storm
Tears up thy waves, and all thy sweets deform:
Loud howls the blast that threats the seaman's life,
Ev'n then there's ſhelter in the ports of Fife;
Ev'n then, as centinel, stands yon hardy Baſs,
Nor foe, nor friend, nor stranger, e'er can paſs
Without admiring thy unſhaken soul,
And venerable head,, while ages roll.
Nor ſhall the muse unnotic'd in her lay
Paſs the due honour to thee, verdant *May!
To thee belongs the tribute of the brave,
'Tis thine to light them o'er the nightly wave;
And when compell'd by storms to bear away,
Direct their safe retreat to Largo Bay.
O, Largo Bay! my theme, my chief delight;
When I behold thee from this mountain's height,
Thy arms extended to relieve distreſs,
Thy liquid bosom clear as poliſh'd glaſs,
My heart exults:—Come here, come here, I cry,
Why, valitudinarians, will ye die?
If spleen oppreſs thy soul, or bod'ly pain
Racks every joint, and cramps thy ev'ry vein,
Here breathe the air which will thy health restore,
Chear all thy soul, and open ev'ry pore;
Or if by slow consumption you decay,
Come here and live, there's life in Largo Bay;
Bathe in the stream which braces ev'ry nerve,
Goodsir † declares this will thy life preserve:
And who can doubt what Goodsir doth declare,
Whose medicines are always mix'd with pray'r?
No med'cines here I need, where every breath
Draws health and pleasure from the mountain heath;
Purples and green the velvet carpet spread,
Bees suck the flow'rs, and ſheep the pasture tread.
Thy mountain, Lebanon was not more fair,
Nor Hermon's hill breath'd ne'er a sweeter air;
Nor leſs the beauties of yon verdant mead,
Where sporting heifers and huge oxen feed.
Far in yon vale of Lundin ‡ rears its head
An ancient tower;—three gray stones mark the dead;
The mighty dead of Scandinavian race,
Who strove in vain to gain the ancient place;
They fell, o'ercome by Caledonian pow'r,
And Scottiſh heroes still poſseſs the tow'r.
Still farther west, and tow'ring in the ſky,
The brother Lomonds lift their heads on high;

* May a beautiful island on which is a light house in the mouth of the Forth.

† Mr John Goodsir, surgeon in Largo, a gentleman eminent in his profeſsion and in every Christian virtue.

‡ An estate belonging to Sir William Erſkine of Tory.

Their sable heads in silent sadneſs ſhake,
And cast their gloomy ſhade in Leven's lake.
Ah, fairest of the Caledonian fair,
Ill fated Mary! thou wast all their care;
For thee, O queen, these everlasting hills
Rejoiced once;—now grief their bosom fills:
Their hoary locks in clouds of sorrow fall,
And pour their tears around thy castle wall.
But see the sun darts forth celestial rays,
The lake now ſhines, the castle seems to blaze;
The gloom of woe dispells,—and lo! their weeds
The Lomonds change,—ſhade after ſhade succeeds;
The varied landscape dazzles all my sight,
And Largo house seems in a blaze of light.
Hail Largo house! renown'd for great and good,
The seat of Durham, once of Andrew Wood;
Durham, improver of thine own estate,
Rich are thy fields, and elegant thy seat;
Brave Wood, to grateful Scotia ever dear,
Her fleets thou didst to dreadful battle steer;
And when loud war to silent peace gave way,
Thy ſhips thou safely moor'd in Largo Bay.
Or peace or war, to thy profeſsion true,
The hills were rocks, the plains were seas to you;
The deep canal, flow'd round thy strong abode,
And barge convey'd thee to the house of God;
Now thy canal o'ergrown with ruſh and flag,
Thy tow'r the haunt of fairy, witch, or hag;
No barge is there, but frogs expanding swim,
Here bats cling silent, and the night owls scream;
But thy just fame ſhall never know decay,
Fix'd as yon mount, and pure as yonder bay.
O, Largo bay! how many are thy charms?
Smooth are thy waves, and safe thy ſhelt'ring arms;
No winds can trouble thee except the west,
To weary mariners a place of rest;
This Selkirk * found, when from Fernandez isle
Return'd to Largo, and his native soil.
A man of wond'rous life.—Four years and more
He trode alone the solitary ſhore,
Far from the haunts of men;—nor friend had he
Except his cats, his kids, and a fuzee.
His purring guards around their sov'reign creep,
Lest hostile rats ſhould e'er disturb his sleep;
His kids were partners when he rang'd the dance,
Their nat'ral ſkip exceeds the art of France;
Or when to heav'n he pray'd or offer'd praise,
They join in concert, or in silence gaze.
Lo from the bay, methinks I see his ghost
Rise like a vapour on his native coast,
Swift from the beach he runs along the graſs,
A cloud supplies him with a goat ſkin dreſs;

* Alexander Selkirk, known by the name of Robinson Crusoe.

Now up the mount he flies, now round it floats,
From rock to rock pursues the flying goats;
Now down the hill before the eastern breeze,
Keel's den receives him 'mong her trembling trees.
There, solitary ſhade, enjoy delight,
Where sylvan scenes compose a verdant night;
The solemn winding walk, beneath the ſhade
Of beech or elm, in thoughtful silence tread;
Muse on the past,—thy hut, sequester'd cell,
Where thou in peace with God and man did dwell;
Or if the stream attract thy airy form,
And lead thee to the glade by dawn of morn,
There willows weep, Laburnums hang their flow'rs,
And Caledonian firs, rise verdant tow'rs;
'Mong these, sweet birds their Maker's praises sing;
The sound, the scene, will to remembrance bring
Thine own Fernandez, in eternal spring.
Nor leſs the beauties of thy native ſhore;
List to the muse,—ſhe sings of days of yore.
Far west, as *Leven's* solitary stream
Is lost in ocean, like a nightly dream,
To where *Kincraig* extends his arm to save
The sea-beat sailor from the German wave;
Within these bounds, a mighty forest stood,
Green were its groves, and brown the bord'ring wood;
Tall grew the elm, the beech, the plane, and pine,
Rear'd verdant crests, that wav'd above the line
Of humble ſhrubs.—These, in close copse, unite
To form deep dens, (impervious to the light,)
For prowling wolves, and Caledonian boars,
Whose dreadful tuſks th' unwary trav'ller gores;
The neighbr'ing hill, not half its present height,
Discharg'd fierce flames, which cloth'd the wood with light;
For many a year the huge volcano burn'd,
Hills sunk to vales, and vales to mountains turn'd;
Earth teeming trembles, and the lava flows,
From year to year the smoking mountain rose;
'Till nature tir'd, unable to sustain
The mighty load of the incumbent plain,
Refus'd her lava, and her wonted fires,
And pent in earth far from her mount retires.
Three days thus ſhe;—nor wind was heard to blow,
Nor sun to ſhine was seen, nor sea to flow;
Till the fourth morn, when lo! a crackling sound
Was heard in air, and trembling seiz'd the ground;
The swelling waves in fury threat the ſhore,
And from beneath internal thunders roar;
Volumns of pitchy smoke invade the ſky,
And flaming rocks from the volcano fly;
When lo! a craſh! too loud for human ear,
The mountain rack'd, the sea retir'd with fear,
Retir'd but to return;—but ah! the wood
Return'd no more.—When sunk beneath the flood,
Within the vast abyſs the forest lay,
The sea ruſh'd in and formed Largo Bay.

Largo, May 28, 1791. NAUTA.

A CURIOUS PETRIFACTION.

There is just now in the posſeſsion of Mr James Haig, merchant in Leith, a petrifaction of the most singular kind I have ever heard of, *viz.* a large maſs of petrified teak wood, which was taken out of the heart of a large teak tree, seemingly sound, which was working up in Bengal for ſhip timber ; but on penetrating to the heart of the tree the workmen found it consisted of one solid maſs of stone, of such extraordinary hardneſs that no tool they had could penetrate it. A large peice of this maſs, weighing nearly one hundred weight, was broken off, and sent home by Mr William Haig of the Lord Hawkesbury Indiaman, along with many other curious specimens in natural history which he sent home to his brother. This specimen, consisting of silicious matter of the hardest texture, exhibits the veins and strie of the wood in the most perfect manner, so that any person that had ever seen the teak wood would know it by the specimen.

To account for the conversion of wood into stone in any situation, is not an easy task to the philosopher. Did these petrifactions consist of the fibres of wood inveloped in a transparent stony incrustation, the difficulty would be in some measure obviated ; but here the *appearance* of the wood alone remains ; for every particle of every fibre is entirely stone of the hardest texture, which admits of the finest poliſh. The whole of the wood then has been diſsolved, except the colouring particles, which remain exactly in the same position they bore in the wood itself, perfectly unchanged, while the substance which corroded the wood has been deposited in its place.

In mocho stones, leaves of mofs, and other small vegetable substances, and in the stones called Venus' and Thetis' hair, found in Rufsia, fibres of fhorl have been evidently inveloped by some transparent fluid in the act of crystalization, exactly as small flies have been buried in amber while in its fluid state, and there preserved when it hardened. But the petrifactions of which we speak are entirely different from these; for here there is no inveloping matter. The wood before it was petrified was a solid substance, whose pores could contain only a small quantity of fluid, and the whole of the mafs now occupies precisely the same bulk as it did when in the state of wood.

But fhould we be able to form some kind of idea of the manner in which vegetable substances might be gradually corroded while in the earth, and liable to be acted upon by a menstruum there, which might contain a solution of certain kinds of stone that might be gradually deposited in its stead, still this hypothesis will afford us no aid when we try to account for the production of the mafs under consideration. It must have been formed in the heart of the tree, *while it was yet growing*, and sound; and not by the corrosion of water dropping through holes from above; for no mark of such defect in the timber was perceived, or it could not have been selected for the use intended. We have no way of accounting for the stony impregnation but by supposing it to have been introduced along with the sap of the tree; and how it fhould happen, on this supposition, that a small part of the heart of the tree fhould have been so entirely converted into stone, while no other part of the wood was affected by it in any degree, will puzzle the best philosopher to account for.

We must regret that no part of the wood which inveloped this stone has been sent; but when we consider the great expence of transporting such a mafs, and the yet

greater difficulty of getting it cut over, we will find that it was almost an insurmountable taſk to attempt it. The woody part could indeed have been cut over by a saw, but no impreſsion c uld have been thus made on the stone. Mr James Haig, desirous of giving some specimens of it to a friend, consulted an eminent lapidary about getting a cut of it sawn through; but the artist declared, that without forming a set of new tools for the purpose it could not be done, and even then it would be a matter of extreme difficulty and great expence; so that, while connected with the wood, it could not at all be done; and no practicable mode of dividing it, but that of breaking by a hammer only, remained.

We may wiſh for several other elucidations respecting this singular production of nature, which it is poſsible may be still obtained on the spot by those who ſhall have occasion to go thither. Was the whole of the heart of the tree thus petrified from the bottom upwards? It would seem probable it was not, otherwise the workmen would have observed it on cutting down the tree. If it did not range along the whole heart, how much of it in length was thus changed? Was it of a regular thickneſs through its whole length or was it irregular? If the last, what appearances did it exhibit? If the first, was it of an equal thickneſs throughout its whole extent; or did it taper towards the top of the tree, or otherwise? Was it broken into lengths by the bending of the tree while growing; or had it been so elastic as to yield with the wood without fracture? If upon the spot some of it could be so broken as to discover whether the inner part were more full of ſhakes than the outer part of it, this would afford a tolerable proof that it had been gradually accumulated as the tree advanced in size; because while the tree was small it would be more easily bent than when larger. But to effect this kind of analysis would be a very difficult taſk.

On the whole, this is a phenomenon entirely new in as far as I have heard, and singularly curious; and the public are much indebted to Mr Haig for his attention in observing and bringing to Europe such a striking curiosity.

Argus bird.

Along with many other beautiful specimens of rare articles in natural history, are the wing and tail and other feathers of an argus bird, one of the most superb and beautiful of the feathered tribe, in high preservation. In a future number of his work ſhall be given some account of this rare and beautiful bird, accompanied with a figure.

A DISCOVERY IN VEGETATION.

Manner of propagating ferns.

It has been long suspected that the spots on the under side of the fern leaf contained the seeds of the plant; but hitherto no decisive experimental proof of it has been obtained in this part of Europe. This desideratum is now obtained. Mr J. Lindsay, keeper of the botanic garden in Jamaica, has cultivated many varieties of this claſs of plants so long, and has repeated the experiments so often, that there can no longer remain any doubt of this fact.

To succeed in rearing the fern from seed, he desires, that the healthiest plants be chosen, that have grown in a free situation; and when the leaves begin to turn yellow, and the spots on the under side have aſsumed a dark snuff colour, gather the leaves with care; spread them in an airy room upon ſheets of white paper; and let them there dry gradually. The seed veſsels in a ſhort time burst, and the seeds are scattered on the paper in the form of a dark coloured dust. On examination by a good magnifier, this dust is observed to consist of two parts, the seed

and the chaff, which it is unnecefsary to separate. The seeds, however, being smaller and weightier, and more oily than the chaff, adhere more firmly to the paper than the chaff.

Let these seeds, when properly dried, be sown upon the surface of some loose moist mold, that has been carefully smoothed. They must not be covered with any mold, but kept moist, and in a situation where there is no want of light, but where they are entirely ſhaded from the direct rays of the sun; for a very ſhort glance of sunſhine upon the young plants, infallibly kills them. The young plants very soon appear in the form of a fine green mofs. The seed leaf is roundiſh and undivided. In a ſhort time the second leaf ſhoots forth, which is palmated, and clearly is a fern. These may be allowed to remain in the seed bed for some time, till they have acquired strength, when they may be transplanted to where they are to remain; and if gently ſhaded, and kept moist, readily take root and grow freely.

Mr Lindsay has tried about a dozen of kinds of fern, and finds they all thus succeed perfectly well. How long the seeds, after gathering, will retain their vegetative power, he cannot tell; but is certain they may be safely kept for at least three months without losing their vegetating faculty.

This may appear at present a matter of mere curiosity. But no person can say whether it may not in time prove of considerable utility to man. The roots of many kinds of fern are very large and succulent, and afford an excellent food for hogs, which are greedy of them, and search for them with avidity; and in several parts of the world, particularly at New South Wales, the wretched inhabitants dig up these roots, and feed upon it themselves. There is also reason to believe, that some varieties of

these may afford useful dyes; and in the Highlands of Scotland the natives obtain a glary juice, like the whites of eggs, from the root of the fern, which they account a sovereign remedy for sprains and burns. They all grow with great luxuriance on barren soils, where few other plants could be made to thrive; so that if they were properly cultivated there, it is highly probable that some kinds of them may be found in time to afford a much more valuable produce than could otherwise be obtained from such soils. Its use in making potash is well known.

ANECDOTES OF SAMUEL BERNARD.

SIR, *To the Ediuor of the Bee.*

SOME traits which have been preserved of Samuel Bernard, unite the ideas of piety and vice, of a great and a little, of a steady and a capricious mind.

This man was a rich Jew, who lived at Paris in the beginning of the present century.—Being appointed banker to the court, he consented to bear the iniquities of government by pretending insolvency. One of his sons was a President of parliament, another, Master of Requests, and his daughter was married to a gentleman who was promoted to the rank of first President of parliament; yet Samuel himself adhered inflexibly to the religion of his fathers.

He resisted the flattery of courtiers with all the dignity of an independent philosopher. He was modest and unassuming at his own table, a circumstance which rendered his company more supportable than that of his brother financiers.

His carriage and horses stood in readiness from the moment he rose till he went to bed. His porter was obliged to watch and listen to every noise, so as to have the gate opened before his coach drove up to it. The soup,

in virtue of a standing order, was served up as soon as he entered the house from transacting his busineſs in the morning.

He was fond of brelan, but angry when he lost. Habits of method and temperance protracted his life beyond ninety years.

He was addicted to superstition, and firmly believed that his fate in this world was linked to that of a black hen, which he fed and treated with special care. This fowl gave up the ghost in January 1739, and Bernard resigned his breath in the course of the same month. He left behind him thirty-three millions of livres.

I am, Mr Editor, your most obedient humble servant,

R. W.

ARCTIC NEWS.

Continued from p. 78.

Silk worms.

WITH regard to the large cocoons of coarse silk found by Sir William Jones in the east, Dr Pallas says he has seen something like them from China; and he remembers likewise to have seen about the year 1760 or 1761, when in London, a large species of cocoon containing a strong silk, at the house of the late worthy Mr Collins, (the Sir Joseph Banks of that period,) which he had received from America, probably Philadelphia, where his principal correspondence lay on that continent. However, all are inferior to the produce of the true silk worm; although in the hands of the interprising and inventive manufacturers of Great Britain, many things become articles of commerce and public use which lay despised and neglected in leſs industrious states. Dr Pallas's time is so completely occupied at *present*, with the different works he has in hand at the Empreſs's expence, with the arrangement of her cabinet of natural history, and with intsructing the great duke in

that amusing and useful study, that he is obliged to drop a great part of his former correspondence, otherwise the Bee might have been enriched with his occasional communications, as he much approves its judicious plan and useful tendency. You will receive inclosed however a paper signed Nemo, from another writer in Rufsia, in a different line, who has more leisure than the naturalist, and who proposes to contribute his mite occasionally to the Bee.

ARCTICUS.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON AGRICULTURE.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I AM glad to see an attempt to make the Bee a vehic for the communication of useful observations relating to domestic economy, and fhall be glad to contribute to give it a free course.

The exhibition of the Languedocian mode of fattening geese and ducks is curious.

The duck called Indian, is the *Anas Indica* of Aldrovand, and our Muscovy duck, which certainly tends to improve the size, though not the number or tranquillity of our duckeries, as he is a most impetuous drake, and extremely irregular in his connections, in so much that I was once forced to expel him from my poultry yard.

We are not sufficiently attentive to the economy of feeding poultry of any kind, which brings that amusing and useful department of female economy into disrepute.

I fhould be glad to see this inconvenience removed, by a distinct account of profit and lofs, upon a systematic plan of rearing these useful birds, and others, upon a large scale, both for private use, and for the market.

The goose is monogamous; and if you give him more females than one, he becomes so far uselefs, and afterwards

troublesome by destroying the eggs. If allowed to range at liberty after they are fit for feeding, they wafh away their flefh and their fat, and destroy the economy of keeping them.

All kinds of poultry ought to be taken up at due times and fed for the larder.

Mafhed potatoes, (of the refuse,) with cabbage, and other vegetables; the dust of corn mills, buckwheat, and the like, fhould be employed in preparing all these birds for the kitchen, and the stock for breeders carefully attended to. Capons too among our dunghill fowl has fallen into disuse, which occasions a considerable lofs, as capons take on much sooner than others, and preserve the tranquillity of poultry yards.

In light lands buckwheat may be raised to great advantage as a lucrative crop *. When green, it is a fine feed for milch kine, and when ploughed in a fine preparation for the land.

It fattens pigs with great economy, and pafsed through the mill, is, with carrot, a capital feed for work horses.

Accept, Mr Editor, of these slight notices from your constant reader and humble servant, PHILOGUNES.

ANECDOTE OF MAGLIABECHI.

MAGLIABECHI, so much noted for his uncommon memory, you know was librarian to the grand duke of Tuscany. An Italian gentleman once told me a very diverting anecdote of a stupid theft of his, of a parcel of curious books,

* I have some doubt if buckwheat can be reared in Scotland with profit. I have tried it on several soils, and in various situations, but always with so little succefs, as to induce me to think, if it can ever be cultivated with profit in Scotland, this can only be in a few very uncommon situations. *Edit.*

which he caused to be packed up in a box in his library, under pretence that he had got them from abroad, when they were traced and searched for. But he caused the box to be made big enough to hold them all; and it was accordingly of a size that could not have entered the room either by the doors or windows, so that he was detected. So true is it that memory and judgement seldom go together.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The communication from *Brito* is received and will appear soon. Could it have been ſhortened a little it would have been still more acceptable. Should this correspondent favour the Editor with farther communications, a little greater rapidity in the narrative, would heighten the interest of the reader.

The hint by *R.* ſhall be attended to.

The Editor thought that he had formerly acknowledged the receipt of the piece signed *one of the people.* The direction given respecting it ſhall be attended to.

The eſsay by *C. L.* is received, and ſhall be duly attended to.

The reading memorandums by an *Old Correspondent* are thankfully received.

The Editor is obliged to *Clio* for his hint; but he doubts if it will be in his power to comply with his request, for reasons that could only be communicated in private.

The favour of *Asiaticus* is received, and ſhall appear soon.

The Editor regrets that *Humanus* ſhould put himself to so much expence in postages, as his writing is not legible without great difficulty; and were the Editor to try to decypher it, he fears many of his readers would not thank him for the trouble. As it is always his wiſh however to indulge his correspondents, he gives the following as a ſhort specimen. If more of it be called for by his readers, he will try to decypher some more of the lines:

To the Editor.

Your last to me, Sir, was so very ſhort,
But for regard to you I'd tane the dort;
And as therein you could not me indulge,
It's hop'd th' inclosed song you will divulge,
That I thereby may claim the small relief,
As by your Bee t' immortalize my grief.
That you may see I am no ways unjust,
But what I aſk do seriously request,
Still as you *vale* † the favour of a friend,
Or would a constant reader not offend. HUMANUS.

† This word cannot be made out.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5. 1792.

THE TRAVELLER. No. III.

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF J. W. SPENCER.

Continued from p. 88.

Gersaw.

With a plate.

In no part of the businefs of life do men act with lefs propriety than in regard to travelling. They not only set out on that important businefs at a period too early in life to permit them to make observations of importance; but they travel through countries with too much rapidity to enable them to form a proper judgement of the people. They hasten from town to town with all pofsible expedition; while there, they pretend to study the manners of the people, and the effects of governments upon them, while they converse only with princes and great men. They do not reflect that mankind in the higher ranks of life are affected by the laws, on many occasions, very differently from the people: nor do they advert that persons of high rank afsume an uni-

formity of character every where, that admits of only slight ſhades of variation; whereas the character of the lower claſses of people is diversified to an aſtoniſhing degree in different countries. Among courtiers every where a deep veil of diſsimulation covers their real character. What is called politeneſs gives to these persons a kind of poliſh which is little diversified. Innkeepers, too, are nearly the same. Their busineſs is to make the most of the people who come to their house; and their character is so strongly influenced by their profeſsion, that they form a set of people entirely different, in most cases, from those of the country around them. If you really wiſh to know the charaeter of the different people, and the effect of the government upon them, you must go into the country; mix among the lower ranks of men; enter into their houses, and converse familiarly with them; for it is there, and there alone, that real information can be obtained respecting the operation of laws upon the happineſs and prosperity of men, and the local habits that are influenced by the laws.

I myself travelled once through Switzerland, as other travellers do, in a post chaise; and was conversant only in cities, in courts, and in inns. I travelled along the great roads that lead through the Alps. I wondered at the height of the mountains, and the steepneſs of the precipices; I saw the waters tumble with impetuosity from rock to rock, and was conducted to view the cascades that every traveller is invited to visit; but I knew nearly as much of the situation of the *people*, and the real state of the country, as if I had never

crofsed the Straits of Dover. I now pursue a different plan. As I travel without any retinue or parade, I can be easily accommodated any where. My presence excites no unusual sensations to the people with whom I converse. They see me a man like themselves, who may have occasion for their afsistance, but can excite neither admiration, nor hopes, nor fears to them. They are at freedom to act as is natural to them. They are surly or kind as nature prompts. I see them, in ſhort, as they are, without disguise. From their conversation and mode of living, I learn, without danger of being mistaken, the effect of the government under which they live upon their mode of thinking, their actions, and their happinefs. The diversity in these respects I have found very great in the course of my travels; but the reflections these observations suggest, are always highly interesting to a speculative mind; so that perhaps of all the occupations in which a man can be engaged, this kind of life affords the most inexhaustible fund of amusement. I only regret the solitude it necefsarily occasions. I can have no friend with whom I can converse. I am therefore reduced to the necefsity of venting my thoughts in writing, and thus it is that my memorandums become so bulky.

I am now in the heart of a republic that has preserved its independence inviolate for upwards of three hundred years; and which in that time has been pafsed by many thousands of travellers who have never heard of its name. It is in some respects the most remarkable state in Europe. The total number of its inhabitants does not exceed *eight hun-*

dred; and the whole extent of its territory would not form a moderate sized English garden, if the hills that surround it are not included, which are so steep as may be accounted the walls of the garden. The flat area which alone admits of cultivation, does not exceed half a furlong in breadth, and is not much more than three times that extent in length, at its longest side. It is formed by a small triangular recess in the mountains on the north part of the lake of Lucerne; or, as it is more commonly here denominated, the lake of the *four country cantons.* There is no access to this microscopic state but by water; and the lake at this place, hemmed in by stupenduous mountains on every side, which rise in many places nearly perpendicular, is almost of unfathomable depth, and liable to be agitated to an astonishing degree while hardly any wind is felt above, by what they call here ground tempests; so that the access to it is, even by water, extremely hazardous to those who are not well acquainted with it. To this difficulty of access, and to the small value of its territory, do this innocent people owe their independence and tranquillity. It is entirely surrounded on the land side by the territories of Schweitz, and lies nearly opposite to Stantz the capital of the canton of Undervald *.

* The republic of Lucca in Italy, which has been so minutely described by Mr Addison, has been generally accounted the smallest independent state in Europe; but when compared with that of Gersaw, it appears as an elephant to a mouse. The republic of Lucca contains about an hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants; the single city of Lucca alone, contains above forty thousand. Its territory is about thirteen Italian miles in cir-

This little nook forms one of the most romantic spots that can be conceived. The whole of the inhabitants live in the village, and though there are no superb palaces that would attract the notice of the connoifseur, the houses are neat and plain, and are the abodes of health, and innocence, and peace. Each house has its adjoining garden, which is cultivated to a very high degree. These gardens are well stored with esculent plants, and with apple and pear trees of great age, which bend under the load of fruit. The pear trees, especially, rise to a vast height, and form a superb grove of singular luxuriance and beauty. The south side of every wall is covered with vines, and the north with currants; so that there is not a waste inch of ground in the whole territory, unlefs it be on the banks of the little rill of water which here falls into the lake. It takes its rise from a spring in the mountains at a small distance from the village, and is never dry; though at present, (July 4th,) it is but a step acrofs it. But during a thunder fhower in summer, or while the snow is melting in the spring, the waters rufh down with such impetuosity as to have formed a wide bed, which is covered with stones slightly rounded by

cumference. Its soil is fertile and highly improved. One hundred and fifty villages belong to it. Its ordinary revenue exceeds 400,000 *scudi*; and it can bring into the field an army of twenty thousand men. This single diminutive Italian republic, then, small as it has been accounted, is equal in population to an hundred and fifty such states as Gersaw; and in extent of territory exceeds it in the proportion of more than five hundred to one. Justly then has our author characterised it by the epithet *microscopic* state; yet this state small as it is, glories, and justly, that it had a fhare in establifhing the freedom of the Swifs Cantons. *Edit.*

their rolling over each other. After every such inundation the whole of the people turn out to clear away the large stones, so as to leave the beach smooth for bleaching their linens, and drying the fish they catch from the lake in great abundance; so that this stony beach may perhaps be accounted the most valuable part of their territory. The stream brings down from the mountains every year a quantity of stones sufficient for all the purposes they want; and providentially brings them to their hand, so as to admit of being carried off in hand barrows; for there is not in the whole republic either horse or ass, or any other beast of burden. The live stock belonging to the republic consists of a few cows and hogs, some sheep, and a considerable number of goats, of whose milk they make excellent cheeses, which forms a principal part of the sustenance of the people. These animals find an abundant pasture in summer upon the mountains, though there is a difficulty in procuring provender in winter. There are many small huts erected on the flattest parts of the mountains, which are inhabited only in summer, for the purpose of milking the goats and making the cheeses. The access to these huts is so difficult that the people have little communication with those in the vale during summer. During this season the he-goats are driven to the higher parts of the mountain, and allowed to range at large, the dams and kids only being kept near the huts. In the beginning of winter they have become excessively fat; and at that time they are all collected together; and as many as are not intended to be kept,

are slaughtered and salted for winter provision. The only meat they taste during the early part of summer is kid's flesh; which at the proper season is plentiful and very good.

The chief employment of the men during the greatest part of the year, is tending the flocks, and fishing on the lake, in which they are tolerably successful. There are several kinds of fish caught here, but those which most abound, are called *lottes*, and are larger than a haddock; these they salt and dry in the sun, on the stones upon the banks of the rivulet, and are in general very well cured, and sweet to eat. Besides what serves themselves, they send annually to Lucerne several boat loads of these, with some cheeses, which they dispose of, and bring back a variety of goods, but chiefly corn and flour, in return; of which last article they are obliged to be very sparing. But as they have at all times abundance of cheese, of flesh, fresh or salted fish, fruits, roots, and garden produce, they can make a very plentiful meal of these with a small proportion of bread.

The church is a neat structure, with a high spire, that has a very fine effect from the lake, a sketch of which I have taken †. The people are devout, and punctual in their attendance on divine worship. The only other structures of note in this small state, are the town hall, which is much inferior in size and elegance to the church, and the parson's house; all the other houses are merely cottages.

The government of this state is a pure democracy. The supreme legislative power belongs to the Na-

† See the plate.

tional Afsembly, which meets every year in the church, in the month of May, to deliberate on public affairs, to revise the laws, and to form new ordinances. Every male above sixteen years of age, is a member of this afsembly. One day usually concludes their sefsion. The executive power is entrusted to a chief magistrate, who is called *landman*, who continues in office two years. There are several other officers; a council, whose functions are well defined, and a criminal tribunal, which fortunately has seldom occasion to act.

This state formed one of the earliest constituent members of the Helvetic league. Gersaw concluded an alliance with the cantons of Uri, Schweitz, and Undervald in the year 1315; and this alliance was confirmed in 1359. At this last epoch it had the canton of Lucerne for a fourth ally; and in 1431 the number of men that Gersaw fhould furnifh to the allies in time of war, was fixed at one hundred.

Nothing can exceed the innocence and gentlenefs of this harmlefs people when unprovoked, unlefs it be their firmnefs and intrepidity when dangers threaten. Accustomed to brave dangers on the deep, and along the rocks in the mountains, they are a hardy and determined race; nor ever lose their presence of mind on any emergency. Strangers seldom land here; and when it does happen, as there is neither inn nor place of entertainment of any sort in the whole republic, the inhabitants no sooner see a stranger land, than the first that meets him accosts

him with the most cordial civility, and insists on his becoming his guest while he stays there, where he is treated with the kindest hospitality. I have the honour to be the guest at present of William Schutz, who has been landman no lefs than three times; and if strong good sense, and a natural courtesy of manner, originating from beneficence of mind, ought to recommend a man to that distinguifhed honour, he is well deserving of it. I have spent many happy days under the hospitable roofs of other Swifs, but none with greater pleasure than here. He served in the army in his younger years; and though he never was beyond the limits of the Swifs cantons, he has visited many places in them, and has made just observations on what he has seen. He lives happy in the bosom of a family who love him; and in the heart of a community which respects his virtues, and is proud to avail itself of his talents. To his conversation I am indebted for the greatest part of the information I have obtained concerning this unknown state.

To the lovers of liberty this is clafsic ground. I am now in the very centre of that region in which the liberties of the Helvetic states was formed. The town of Schweitz is directly behind the mountain to the north; Uri is on the left, and Underwald in front. It was three individuals of these several cantons who first formed the plan of opposing the ferocious Gesler. At a small distance from hence, behind that high hill which incroaches on the sea to the west, stands the village of Kufsnacht, where the famous William Tell was to have been confined for

life in a tower that is now levelled to the ground. To-morrow I set sail for Brunnen, and Fluellen, and Altorff; and my host, who repeats with enthusiastic ardour the transactions which laid the foundation of the Helvetic league, insists upon accompanying me thither. He will ſhow me, he says, the very rock where the intrepid Tell jumped from the boat, and made his escape; and visit with me the chapel, sacred to freedom, erected on the spot. He will point out the meadow where first the patriotic heroes swore fealty to each other, and determined either to obtain liberty for their country, or death. He will not leave me, he says, till he ſhall have planted my staff in the very place where the insulting pole stood at Altorff, that supported the cap which all were obliged to worſhip. An ardent enthusiasm of mind is infectious. I ſhall accompany this high minded boor with the most extatic ardour;—I ſhall pay my devoirs to the manes of the daring Tell;—and I ſhall contemplate his features with delight.

ON THE USE AND EFFECTS OF ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE FOOD.

Continued from p. 121.

Opposite causes produce, in the torrid zone, directly opposite effects. First, the majority of the countries that lie between the tropics are inimical to the pastoral life, and the keeping and multiplication of such herds of tame animals as in our climes produce the richest and most wholesome animal nu-

triment. Nature has decreed that the torrid zone ſhould be the abode of the strongest beasts of prey. Lions, tigers, leopards, and others of like nature, in Africa, as far as it extends within the torrid zone, in southern Asia, and in all the great East Indian islands, are so numerous and bold, that the habitations of men are never safe from their ravages; much leſs is it therefore poſsible to keep herds of oxen, cows, and ſheep. But if they could protect great herds of such tame animals against the depredations of their enemies, yet would they have, in most of the regions of the torrid zone, other insurmountable obstacles to encounter, arising from the climate itself. Almost all the countries of the torrid zone experience annually, once or twice, periodical interchanges of dry and humid seasons. In the wet season, heavy ſhowers of rain perpetually succeed each other, with very ſhort intervals, for several months together: all the streams overflow their banks, and deluge the lower grounds with water four or five feet in depth, and therefore exactly those flats where cattle and ſheep principally find their nouriſhment. In the dry season, the plants and graſses, which had ſhot forth with inconceivable rapidity on the retreat of the waters, are presently burnt up by the perpendicular rays of a sun scarcely ever clouded; and therefore in the season that is free from rain, there is generally a want of fodder for the larger kinds of domestic animals. But if here and there, as in the peninsula of India, cattle may be bred, yet their increase is so slow as to be

scarcely sufficient for the purposes of agriculture; for which reason, several of the Mohammedan emperors of Hindostan have occasionally been obliged to forbid the slaughter of oxen and cows for a time *. By reason of the bad and scanty fodder, the beef, and even mutton throughout Hindostan, is not only extremely hard and heating †, but on the coast of Malabar is intolerably disgusting; and the eating of it is attended with so much danger, that Europeans have been known to get the most malignant ulcers from that practice ‡. In the whole of the torrid zone there are but a few districts, which by rare properties of soil and climate, abound in nutritious and wholesome herbs and grafses, and accordingly where numerous herds of tame European animals are able to find food; and the animals of these pastures yield a meat no lefs salutary, than well tasted. Among these districts we may particularly reckon Java ||, and Madagascar ¶, as also Abyfsinia §; and most of the low parts of America, from twenty-five degrees north latitude, to thirty degrees south latitude **. Poivre affirms that he never in all his life saw larger and finer cattle than in Java; and both he and Gentil afsure us, that in Madagascar oxen and sheep are of an extraordinary delicacy, and that their flesh is almost too nutritious. The oxen have

* See Meiner's history of religion, article, *sacred animals.*

† Bern, tom. ii. p. 25. ‡ Toreen, p. 475. || Poivre, p. 61.

¶ Idem, p. 15. & *seq.* Gentil, tom. ii. p. 402. § Lobo, p. 181.

** Gily, tom. iv. *pafsim*, partic. 119; Smith's tour in the United States of America, vol. i. p. 381.

large lumps of fat upon their backs ; and the ſheep drag after them a fat tail, weighing from six to eight pounds. This prime quality of their fleſh is ascribed to a kind of gramen peculiar to that island, which to our quarter of the globe would perhaps be a present of more importance than all the rest of the products of Madagascar together. In the province of Caracas, and several other regions of South America, the meadow lands are verdant all the year. Some private persons, therefore, poſseſs from 20,000 to 30,000 head of cattle ; and the beef is so immoderately fat, that the fat parts must be separated from the lean, in order that it may be eaten without disgust. In the neighbourhood of Porto Bello, the meadows are, to all appearance, as excellent as in Caracas ; but the unfriendly climate in which this city stands, operates so disadvantageously on oxen, that their fleſh is scarcely eatable on account of its leanneſs †.

If therefore nature has denied to most of the countries of the torrid zone those kinds of tame animals without which we in Europe could not subsist, ſhe has refused them nothing but what would be either useleſs or pernicious to them : for the frequent use of such fleſh meats as we are accustomed to, would, in the torrid zone, infallibly produce a host of putrid diseases that would baffle the whole art of medicine. But for what this kind and tender parent seems to have deprived the inhabitants of the torrid zone on one side, ſhe has a thousand fold recompensed them

† Ulloa's voyage, vol. i. p. 87.

on another in the choicest gifts. She has presented them not only with the invaluable kinds of palm, and the still more prolific bread fruit trees, and sago trees; has not only bestowed upon them a multitude of succulent roots, as potatoes, manioc, ignames, and many others, but has granted them likewise millet, maize, and especially rice; pure vegetables, which yield fruit a hundred, two hundred fold and more, and of which the rice affords at least two harvests in the year. By these her gifts, as by the great variety of refreſhing fruits which nature has bestowed on the torrid zone in preference to all others, ſhe plainly pointed out to man what kinds of food ſhe had allotted to his use; and man, in this instance, has obeyed the parental suggestions ſhe gave him for his good. The original inhabitants of the torrid zone, indeed, from their insatiable voraciousneſs, sometimes devour the raw or putrid fleſh, even of ravenous beasts, or of elephants, aſses, and horses, or likewise putrid fiſh; but their chief nouriſhment is always rice, or other vegetables; and with these they join only so much animal food as is neceſsary to abate the too great acidity arising from the constant use of vegetable diet. The generality of the pagan Hindoos take no fleſh meats at all; and these haters of fleſh are neverthelеſs no leſs healthy, or perhaps healthier, than the other inhabitants of Hindostan, who commonly eat animal food *. The same may be advanced of the Japanese, who (fiſh excepted) abstain from animal food †. If the Hindoos are leſs long

* Rogers, vol. i. p. 18; Niebuhr, tom. ii. p. 30.

† Description of the nations of Ruſsia, vol. i. p. 10, 11.

lived than the Europeans, as Chardin pretends to have remarked †, the reason of it certainly is not in their vegetable diet; for even he confesses that they are liable to fewer distempers than the Europeans: nor probably in an excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures; for this propensity to voluptuousness, which seems excessive to Europeans, is an impulse of their nature; but rather in the more quickly ripening, and more quickly exhausting climate of Hindostan. Moreover, the Hindoos themselves, by the permission they grant to their nobles, or warriors, to eat flesh, seem tacitly to allow that a moderate use of animal food, even in their climate, affords, if not more health, at least more strength; and what Mackintosh supposes, is by no means impossible, that the dogs of the Europeans are stronger than those of the Hindoos, because the former are fed with flesh, and the latter not ‡.

The farther we proceed from the confines of the torrid zone towards the poles, the greater diminution we perceive in the inexhaustible fertility of the soil, and the productiveness of the fruits of the earth; and on the other hand, the variety and the use of animal victuals. All the countries that lie in Asia and Africa, partly too in America, (though this quarter of the globe, in this likewise, differs from the ancient world,) between the 23d and 35th to the 40th degree of north latitude, compose the warmer half of the temperate zone; and their inhabitants, in regard to their diet, more or less resemble us, or the

† Description of the nations of Russia, vol. iii. p. 32.
‡ Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa, vol. ii. p. 67.

nations between the tropics, according as the places they inhabit are cooler or more hot. The Mores of Hindostan have three principal dishes*, the main ingredients whereof are always rice, or other vegetables, and are only garnished, as it were, with little portions of flesh or fish, or of roasted lamb. Mutton and beef are only eaten by the poorer sort. We are likewise told by Chardin†, that the Mores of Hindostan, on account of the excessive heats, eat much less flesh than in other places; and that they endeavour to correct the crudities arising from the constant use of fruits, roots, and legumes, by butter, which, like the heathenish Hindoos, they mix in great quantities with all their victuals.

In Persia‡ they do not eat the tenth part of so much flesh as is consumed in France. The Persians eat no flesh but in the evening, and that only of the tenderest animals, of sheep, lambs, chickens, and capons. Fish and game but seldom make their appearances on the Persian tables ||; and veal and beef are only eaten in the colder regions by the poorer class of people ¶; and the cattle in Persia are always lean, and the flesh is tough and indigestible §. The dinner, or rather the breakfast of the Persians, consists in flesh or preserved fruits, and of milk preparations. They have melons the whole year through; grapes eight months; and preserved fruits and milk messes never fail them. Their supper

* Grose, vol. i. p. 150. † Idem, vol. iii. p. 78. ‡ Chardin, tom. ii. p. 117. || Idem, vol. iii. p. 75. ¶ Idem, ib. p. 83, 84. § Idem, ib. p. 101.

also chiefly consists of rice and other vegetables, with which they eat a little roasted flesh *. In April even the people of distinction eat daily, for two or three weeks, from ten to twelve pounds of melons; and there are persons that will consume thirty-five pounds of that fruit, without doing themselves any harm †. As long as the melon season lasts, and that is about four months, the common people eat nothing but melons and cucumbers, and the latter without any preparation whatever. Chardin gives it as his opinion, that in all France there are not so many melons eaten in a whole month, as are consumed in Ispahan in one single day ‡.

As the countries inhabited by the Turks are far less hot, and, with all their indolence, that people use more motion than the Persians, so they eat in general more, and also more flesh and less fruit than the Persians ||. Yet among the Turks, vegetables, either raw or boiled, especially rice, are the principal food ¶. They rarely eat beef; and in Syria they are so intemperate in the use of raw fruits, that they bring upon themselves, by that practice, diseases to which the Europeans are not subject §. The Arabians live almost entirely on bad baked millet bread **, like the inhabitants of Sennaar, who yet, with this diet, are said to be much more robust than the Europeans ††. Even among the Moors, or the

* Chardin vol iii. p. 76. † Idem, ib. p. 22. ‡ Idem *ubi supra*.
|| Idem, tom. iii. p. 76. ¶ Ludeke, p. 115. § Rufsel, p. 109 138.
** Niebuhr, descript. p. 57. †† Lettr. edifi. tom. iv. p. 15.

Arabs that dwell in towns in Barbary, three out of four persons live entirely on bread *. In Egypt no meat is seen on the tables of the great and opulent but mutton and poultry; for beef and buffalo flefh are only eaten by the common people †. In April and May, besides fruit, only fifh is eaten, but no flefh; because during the hot months they have an aversion to all animal viands ‡.

Thus, of the nations of our quarter of the globe, it may, almost without exception, be affirmed, that they eat more cooling fruits and legumes, and lefs flefh, and that flefh, in quality, lefs nutritious and solid, the more southward they dwell, or the hotter their climate. Our forefathers, on the contrary, the old Saxons, Danes, and Britons, ate much more flefh, and much lefs bread, legumes, and fruit than we ||; because our country, by the endlefs forests and morafses with which it was covered, was much colder and moister, than it is at present. This frequent use of simple flefh meats was not only more suited to the climate, and the manner of life of the ancient Britons, but was certainly a concomitant cause of the extraordinary bulk and strength which rendered them so formidable to the Romans. Their posterity have wisely departed from the animal diet of their progenitors. In proportion as the great forests have been cleared, the deep marfhes drained, various kinds of corn and grain,—of legumes and

* Shaw, p. 188. † Millet, tom. ii. p. 109. ‡ Idem, ib.
|| Pelloutier, tom. i. p. 467.

fruit trees have been introduced and planted, and thereby the climate of the old inhabitants has been mitigated. In no other clime, are, (even the men of nobler origin,) in a higher degree *animalia omnivora*, than in the colder half of the temperate zone; as it affords all kinds of tender and solid flesh, all sorts of corn, vegetables, roots, and fruit, or can easily procure them, and which taken together, yield a wholesome nutriment when moderately enjoyed. Physicians, therefore, when they recommend to healthy persons in our regions, a diet either entirely vegetable, or entirely animal, run counter to the analogy of nature, or to the manifest arrangements which nature has made for our benefit. NEMO.

MANUFACTURES,

IN UNION WITH IMPROVED AGRICULTURE.

For the Bee.

WHILE many of my countrymen are agitated by foolish politics, or idling away their time in worthless dissipation, to the ruin of their health, fortune, and reputation, let me recal our attention to the consideration of those honest and commendable employments that promote and tend to secure the peace and welfare of the people, and a regular administration of government.

There have been many crude speculations among politicians concerning the preference to be given to agriculture, or to commerce and manufactures; and

men, inclined to the one or to the other by their habits, or by superficial views of complex society, have perplexed themselves and the public with theories that have no real foundation in the sound principles of political economy.

Improvements in agriculture naturally precede improvements in manufactures; and if the seat of thriving manufactures is generally to be found where the former is not eminent, it will be found, upon due consideration, to proceed rather from the abundance of fuel, stone, and lime, and other accomodations for easy settlement of the people, than that the prevalence of manufactures has any tendency to draw off capitals, injuriously, from agriculture, or to raise the price of country labour, to the general detriment of the farmer.

If the just and luminous principles of the judicious efsayist on the Wealth of Nations fhall be finally adopted, and the corn trade have a free course, unfettered by laws and regulations, the farmer must find his account in the multiplication of the people, by the eftablifhment of new branches of manufactures; for corns of all kinds are bulky commodities, and must always be raised and sold to the best advantage by the grower at home. And by the bounty that is thus offered for increasing the productive qualities of the soil, the almost infinite improvability of the art of agriculture will give scope to invention in that first of arts, beyond the reach of our present conceptions.

The worthy Editor of this miscellany has set forth in some of his useful papers the wonderful ef-

fects of necefsity and high premium in the creation of new corn lands and garden ground in the vicinity of Aberdeen; and the fine crops all around Edinburgh, on the Forth westward, where nothing but heath and muir, whin stones and broom, were to be found in the last century; the improvements on Falkirk Muir, Flanders Mofs, and all around the neighbourhood of Glasgow and Paisley, sufficiently evince the great effect which towns, composed of industrious settlers in manufacture, has upon the increase of agricultural produce.

In fhort I consider agriculture and manufactures as man and wife, the former the hardy hufband in the field, and the latter the thrifty laborious spinster in the house.

Whom God, therefore, or the constitution of nature, has joined, let no man attempt to put asunder!

Let every one of us, in our respective situations promote as much as pofsible the full employment of our capitals, of our fkill, and dexterity, in agriculture and manufactures. And let commerce be as inland and domestic, or as foreign and external, as events fhall occasion, we fhall do best never to think of balances of trade as sources of jealousy, or causes of disagreement and foolifh enactments; but to be persuaded, that home and neighbouring markets are the most profitable, by securing quick returns, and by preventing ridiculous, as well as abominable wars, undertaken by selfifh ministers for the extension of commercial monopolies.

By universal industry the mafs of human enjoyments would be indefinitely augmented, and the non-

sensical ideas of the wealth and happinefs of nations being incompatible with each other, banifhed to the regions of fancy and superstition.—The subdivision of commercial and manufacturing prosperity among the various nations of the globe, will be found, in the end, not lefs conducive to individual, than to general happinefs; and every sort of improvement will gradually take place according to the climates, circumstances, and situations of the countries in which they are attained. The northern and colder regions of the earth, will learn from experience the folly of attempting to produce silk, vines, or olives; the torrid zone, to give up projects for supplanting the temperate in corn, grafs, wool, and hides; and the whole world would become as it were an immense family, in which every part of it has its proper occupation.

These reflections have occurred to me in consequence of the pleasing recollection of what has happened in our Scotland since I was a boy, or able to ponder the wonderful improvements that have taken place among us in every department of political economy.

I have resided these four years past in the southern district of Scotland, not far from the borders of England; and, when I came, listened with concern to the dictatorial presages of people who pretended to be enlightened and well informed, concerning the impofsibility of doing any thing important for manufactures, in a country where fuel was brought all the way from Lothian, and corn was to be sent to Leith, or the markets of Berwick or Dalkeith.

I saw the wool sent to Yorkſhire to be combed, sent down again to be spun, and up again to be wove, and down again to be bought in Scotland. I saw roads acroſs one of the fineſt vales in the kingdom impracticable to be travelled even on horseback, and the people averse to have turnpike laws to repair or make them.

I now see within four miles of my door, four score looms employed on cotton warps from Glasgow, and many hands employed in tambouring cottons for the Glasgow markets.

Galaſhiels, a village on *an entailed estate*, the bane of every improvement, surmounting the great impediment, and rising rapidly to be a Scottiſh Huddersfield, with a monthly cloth market already eſtabliſhed, and affording great sales.

The idle villages of Laſsudden and Earlston employing thirty looms for cottons; and more coming in daily. Turnpike laws paſsing for making roads in all directions; the breed of ſheep improving, and fine wool laying upon fine mutton; fulling mills, and carding and scribling machines, and mule jennies, erected at Inverleithan and Southdean; and a general spirit of industry awakening in the country.

A survey of the line of inland navigation from Berwick into the heart of the country has been made by Mr Whitworth; and by and bye the people will render it no project, but an easy and profitable adventure.

With respect to the dearneſs of fuel, the people will soon obviate this impediment by its economy in stoves, as is practised in other countries similar-

ly situated; and agriculture, advanced by a growing demand for the produce of well cultivated lands, will be improved far beyond what at present may be supposed poſsible.

I am a farmer upon a small scale, having not more than thirty acres under the plough, and about sixty acres of upland: of lowlands I received seventeen acres in a very waste condition, covered with broom, or sanded by the invasion of river water. These seventeen acres were rated at four guineas. I fenced it against invasion of water at a very small charge; and ever since for three years past, I can command twelve or thirteen returns of corn upon it, without any barren fallows; and have sold twenty pounds *per* acre of potatoe produce from it, to the adjoining villagers, at four ſhillings the Lothian boll.

I have thirteen acres in garden crops, managed with the plough, four in turnip, three roods in field carrot, two roods in buckwheat, three acres in potatoes, an acre in cabbage, three acres in beans, all by the drill; and after all these I ſhall have wheat and barley.

I can venture to say that I ſhall have more than thirty returns from my beans, and that my other crops are proportionably abundant.

Let Virgil's maxim of the *exiguum colito* be observed, and the best modes of management, guided by experience, be followed, and the produce of fine natural lands, even in our poor country, will be found to surpaſs our most sanguine expectations, and agriculture keep pace with any degree of population that our manufacturing system can create.

Let such sentiments and plans prevail, and I will be bound to keep the peace of the country, against all the pains and *Paines* that may be used to disturb it.

Nothing but good can happen in an industrious and enlightened country; and it is to the want of light and of industry, that we are to impute the confusions and miseries of France, and of the continent, and not to the natural principles and desire of freedom.

"Hæ nobis erunt artes pacisque imponere morem,"
"Sic patriam amplectans viam eamus Olympo."

An Old Correspondent.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

For the Bee.

Let us neither think so highly of ourselves as to imagine we are above receiving light from books; nor so meanly, as to think we cannot invent or discover without their immediate afsistance;—diligently examining, therefore, the observations of others, let us trust chiefly to our own experience.

It is very necefsary in a polifhed age, to recommend truth by elegance, and to embellifh philosophy with polite literature, because small is the proportion of mankind, in such a state, who will sacrifice their pleasure to their improvement; and if many readers are to be desired, they must be attracted by the graces of style, and the harmony of composition.

ANOTHER ODE OF HAFEZ,

TRANSLATED BY JOHN SCOTT.

Communicated by Asiaticus

Unless my fair one's cheek be near
To tinge thee with superior red,
How vain, O rose, thy boasted bloom!
Unleſs prime season of the year,
The grape's rich streams be round thee ſhed,
Alike how vain is thy perfume!

In ſhrubs which ſkirt the scented mead,
Or garden's walk embroider'd gay,
Can the sweet voice of joy be found?
Unleſs, to harmonise the ſhade,
The nightingale's soft warbled lay
Pour melting melody around?

Thou flow'ret trembling to the gale,
And thou, O Cypreſs! waving slow
Thy green head in the summer air,
Say, what will all your charms avail,
If the dear maid whose bluſhes glow
Like living tulips, be not there?

The nymph who tempts with honied lip,
With cheeks that ſhame the vernal rose,
In rapture we can ne'er behold,
Unleſs with kiſses, fond, we sip
The luscious balm that lip bestows,
Unleſs our arms that nymph enfold.

Sweet is the rose impurpl'd bow'r,
And sweet the juice distilling bright
In rills of crimson from the vine;
But are they sweet, or have they pow'r
To bathe the senses in delight,
Where beauty's presence does not ſhine?

Nay, let the magic hand of art
The animated picture grace,
With all the hues it can devise;
Yet this no pleasure will impart,
Without the soul enchanting face,
Tinctur'd with nature's purer dyes.

But what's thy life, O Hafez ! say ?
A coin that will no value bear,
Although by thee 'tis priz'd in vain,
Not worthy to be thrown away ‡,
At the rich banquet of thy fair,
Where boundless love and pleasure reign !

The beautiful little poem that follows, is copied from the Edinburgh Evening Courant of November 26, 1792.

A SONG FOR SEVENTY.

I TOLD you Mary, told you true,
If love to favour had a claim,
That all its wishes warm'd my breast,
And you were still the constant theme;
I told you, then, if mine you were,
The pride of rank you must forego,
And all the pomp of dress resign,
For wealth I had not to bestow;
And, Mary, thou didst not reprove,
But bade me hope, and bade me love.

O! Mary, on thy lovely neck
The diamond shone with sweeten'd glance,
And graceful was the silken robe
That mark'd thy motions in the dance;
And joyous were the pompous crowd,
Thy birth entitled thee to join;
But pomp, and wealth, and friends, you left,
To be acknowledg'd, Mary, mine;
Thou, lovely, didst my suit approve,
And bade me hope, and bade me love.

'Tis long now, Mary, since we met:
Stiff are my joints, and hoar my hair;
Ev'n *your* cheek too the wrinkles mark,
And yet, my love, you're wondrous fair;
And were the wrinkles stronger still,
While accents cheerful grac'd your tongue,
How could I but think on those smiles
And accents that adorn'd thee young;
When thou, love, didst my suit approve,
And bade me hope, and bade me love?

‡ This alludes to the oriental custom of throwing away handfuls of a small coin, called, among other names, *nisar*, to the populace, at public entertainments, and upon other occasions of festivity, as marriage, procession, and the like; the eager multitude catch the falling gift in cloths stretched on sticks for the purpose.

How often, Mary! has my heart
With secret rapture beat thy praise,
While on your breast our infants hung,
I mark'd their mother's tender gaze;
And still, my love, thy lad is proud,
'Old as he is, he's proud to see
The younkers anxious for thy love,
Come fondling round their Gran'am's knee,
O bleſs the day you did approve,
And bade me hope, and bade me love!

O Mary! much I owe thy care:
Life's best of bleſsings still you gave;
But now our various duties past,
Our nearest prospect is the grave:
Yet conscious of a virtuous life,
We ſhrink not from the solemn scene;
Sigh, sigh we must that we ſhall part,
But soon, my love! we'll meet again,
Where endleſs pleasures we ſhall prove,
Nor ever, ever cease to love.

Edinburgh, Nov. 26. J. B.

SONNET TO THE MOON.

Bend from thy throne, fair empreſs of the night!
And as thou look'st o'er earth with eye serene,
Marking thy ſhadowy paintings on the green,
And bright'ning heav'n with silver streaming light;

O! if in all thy course, divinely bright,
Thou see'st one wretch in felon malice mean,
Debase the varied beauty of the scene,
Or one fell murd'rer burst the bands of night,

Dart through his soul, severely bright, a ray
Whose living splendor ſhall his hand arrest;
And to his guilty conscious spirit say,
"Though thou may'st live unknown to law's behest,
"And hide thy deeds from mortals and the day,
"Yet conscience' worm ſhall rankle in thy breast."

ARCTIC NEWS.

Continued from p. 150.

The Siberian ruby.

PROFFESSOR HERMAN, a German employed by government in the mineral department of Siberia, has lately discovered in that country a most curious and beautiful species of ruby-coloured ſhorl, which from its great hardneſs takes a fine poliſh, and is named, with some appearance of truth, the *Siberian ruby.* It is certainly valuable and unique; more especially as the small quantity found by the profeſsor is all already disposed of for rings, earings, *&c.* and no more as yet discovered after much diligence. It is supposed by him to have been pent up in the fiſsure of a granite rock, decomposed by time, and forming the bed where he found it, a maſs of felt-spath, quartz, mica, *&c.* all reduced to sand or gravel, the ordinary component parts of that species of rock, which he supposed to have once stood there. This ingenious supposition was supported by several arguments which we have no room for, and by the nature of this ridge of mountains running in the line where this ruby ſhorl lay. I take no notice here of the singular crystalization and configuration of this gem; as the intention of these ſhort notices is rather to raise than satisfy curiosity, and to call the attention of mineralogic dillettanti to the curious productions of the European Peru, which Siberia certainly is in some measure; and might become so in a great degree was that interesting fertile country properly peopled, and sufficiently explored and cultivated, which cannot be done without a much greater proportion of inhabitants.

Nothing can be more interesting to the philosophic naturalist, than the changes that curious part of the globe has

undergone; where by little and little almost every curiosity, metal, and gem, of the East is found, even to the remains of the elephant and rhinoceros, in such immense quantity, as to contrast singularly with its present climate. These remarks apply to both the European and Asiatic parts of it.

General diffusion of silver.

I have lately received a very curious communication from a friend in Bernaul, near the silver mines of Kolivan, on the borders of China.

It is well known that the experiments of the great Swedifh mineralogist, Bergman, led him to conclude, that, next to iron, gold was the metal most universally diffused through matter in general.

General Millar, governor of the district of Kolivan, by a similar chemical research, has found a simular diffusion of silver in all the earths and stones of his government, which have fallen under his examination. Even porphyry contains a minute portion, so that it seems only the wide and minute diffusion of the precious metals, and the expence of extracting them, which makes them so *rare*, rather than their scarcity in the mafs of the globe.

Singular crystalization of silver.

I fhall now finifh my present budget of Arctic news with an article interesting at least to your chemical readers, received from the same gentleman.

A Mr Smyde, employed in afsaying the minerals at Kolivan, had occasion, in the course of his businefs, to add to a solution of silver in the nitrous acid, a certain portion of zinc; which mixture was afterwards set aside, and forgot for upwards of a year, when, to the great surprise of that gentleman, he found in it a beautiful crystalization of silver, similar to what is sometimes found naturally in the bowels of the earth, and which the origin of has so much

puzzled mineralogists. Much attracted by this unexpected phenomenon, he long endeavoured to imitate it, without effect; however, at length my friend informs me, he has found out the circumstances on which that configuration depends; and can now produce it at pleasure. I shall probably be informed in the course of next winter of the *rationale* of the process, and shall communicate it through the medium of the Bee. My ingenious friend offers to me as a query, whether admixture of zinc, which has so singular an effect on silver, may not be instrumental in producing the beautiful crystalizations of other metals in a *native state*, which Siberia so often exhibits; particularly our beautiful crystalized arborization of native copper, which resembles burnished gold more than a base metal? Thus ends my budget on the present occasion; and I beg those who may wish to see a greater variety of topics from this country, to recollect, that the subjects treated in general, are the most proper and prudent in the situation of

Imperial Corps of Nobles and Cadets. ARCTICUS.

ON CHARACTERISTIC MISSIVE LETTERS, &c.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

In my Hints to the Learned, and Gleanings of Biography, which have frequently found a place in your respectable miscellany, I have had occasion to show the importance of attending to the characteristic correspondence of eminent persons; and have indicated many of the repositories in Europe, where such interesting documents are easily accessible.

Many isolated papers of this kind are lost in the cabinets of private families, that might be produced without any impropriety, and throw a blaze of light upon the

manners and principles of the times in which they were written, and by being preserved in your miscellany, serve as materials for future historians and biographers; while, in the meantime, if accompanied with proper elucidations, they could not fail of proving very entertaining to your readers.

Much as I approve of the structure of your miscellany, there is no part of it that attracts my attention more than the protection it offers to fugitive papers of the nature I have described, which, from the want of such an asylum, are lost for ever, by the indiscriminate destruction of what are commonly called *old useless papers.*

Let us only reflect for a moment on the lights that have been afforded to history, science, and literature, by the Paper Offices, in the different repositories of the European nations, by the volumes of letters contained in in public libraries, and by the publication of the *Commercia Epistolica* of eminent and learned persons. How pleasing it would be to find this invitation producing in the Bee, letters of Buchanan to Montaigne, and Montaigne's answers; letters of Kirkaldy of Grange, and Maitland; of Lethington; of Sidney, and Greville; of Luther and the Elector of Saxony; of Tycho Brache and Kepler; such as have never hitherto met the eye of the public, and that might cast new lights on their private character and sentiments. If my feeble voice could make itself be heard, I have little doubt that the Bee might be adorned with such productions; and feeble as it is, I raise its highest notes to excite an attention to its honest and worthy purpose. In the course of a long literary life, it has never been silent, and may find at last, by perseverance, what it could not obtain by its importance, or its extent. I am, Sir, your wellwisher,

ALBANICUS.

Observations on the above.

THE Editor is much obliged to this very ingenious correspondent for the above hints, and many others of equal importance; and will think himself very happy, if he shall be favoured with any interesting papers of the nature above specified: but he begs leave at the same time to assure his readers, that it is far from his intention to convert his miscellany into an antiquarian repository. Papers that contain useful information, or afford an agreeable relaxation to the mind, will be always received with pleasure, by whomsoever they may be written; but trivial and uninteresting matters, though they had been written by the greatest man that ever lived, will not be admitted merely because of the name of the writer. Many literary forgeries are now passed upon the world; nor does the Editor pretend to say he could detect such as might be attempted to be passed upon him. He cannot even pretend to enter upon that difficult line of investigation. The only sure rule of conduct therefore he has to adopt in his situation, is, merely to judge of the intrinsic merit of the pieces themselves that may be offered to him. *Cui bono*, is the question he shall ever put to himself on these occasions; and if he finds it cannot be easily answered, he must decline inserting the performances. By adhering to this conduct he hopes to continue to merit the approbation of his candid readers.

Let him not however be here supposed to disapprove the publication of letters *of every sort*, that may have been written by men of eminence. He knows the important uses that may occasionally be made even of the most trivial of these by studious persons; but as there are few who read merely with these views, and as these few would wish to find the matter they are in quest of compressed into as small a size as possible, without

being intermingled with other matter; these he thinks should in general be published in a separate collection by themselves, which may be bought by those only who wish to enter deeply into researches of the kind that these serve to elucidate.

The following short letter, which has been brought to light by the laudable research of lord Hailes, to whom the literary world lies under the highest obligations, deserves a place in every repository, for the classic purity of the stile, the genuine politeness which it possesses, and fine taste it displays.

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*The dutchess dowager of Lenox to king James**.

MY SOVEREIGN LORD,

"According to your majesty's gracious pleasure signified unto me, I have sent a young man to attend you, accompanied with a widow's prayers and tears, that he may wax old in your majesty's service; and in his fidelity and affection may equal his ancestors departed: so shall he find grace and favour in the eyes of my lord the king; which will revive the dying hopes, and raise the dejected spirits, of a comfortless mother. Your majesty's most humble servant," KA. LENOX.

It has been often remarked with great justice that ladies write with much more elegance and ease than men; and this letter, if compared with others at the same period, will be admitted as a proof of it. The following letter, written by the wife of the famous duke of Buckingham to the same king, will serve as a foil to it.

* James the first of England. This dutchess of Lenox was the daughter and heir of Gervase, lord Lethington, the widow of Esme, third duke of Lenox, and the mother of many heroes. *Note of lord Hailes.*

To king James.

May it pleas your Magestie,

" I have receved the two boxes of drid ploms and graps, and the box of violatt caks, and chickens; for all which I most humbly thank your majestie.

" I hope my lord Annan * has tould your majestie that I did mean to wene Mall very shortly. I wood not by any mens a-don it, till I had furst made your majestie acquanted with it; and by reason my cusen Bret's boy has binne ill of latt, for fere shee should greeve and spyle her milk, maks me very desiorous to wene her. And I thinke shee is ould enufe, and I hope will endure her wening very well; for I thinke there was never child card less for the brest than shee dos; so I do entend to make triall this night how she will endure it. This day praying for your majestie's health and longe life, I humbly take my leave. Your majestie's most humbel servant,"

K. Buckingham.

As a farther specimen of the royal correspondence in those days, I add the following letter from the famous duke of Buckingham to the same king James.

Dear Dad and Gossip,

" Yesterday we got hither so early, that I had time to see over a good part of my works here. This afternoon I will see the rest. I protest to God the chiefest pleasure I have in them, is, that I hope they will please you, and that they have all come by and from you. I am now

* The person intrusted with this important commission concerning the weaning of Mall, was Sir John Murray of the bedchamber, created viscount Annan by king James. *Note of lord Hailes.*

going to give my redeemer thanks for my *maker* *. The afternoon I will spend in viewing the rest. To-morrow the————— † threaten to be early up, being of my mind impatient to be with you. We ſhall have need of a coach of yours or *Babie Charles*, to make the way ſhort. I could write to the equeries to send them to Thurlo, seven miles on this side Newmarket; but I will be beholden to none but my kind master and purveyor, who never failed me when I had need; therefore bestir thee, and [two words illegible] duty. I will give no thanks for nothing, till I may do it on my knees; so I crave your bleſsing, as your majesty's most humble slave and dog,'

STINIE."

These letters are transcribed from a book publiſhed by ord Hailes in the year 1766, which is now seldom to be met with, entitled Memorials and Letters relating to the history of Britain in the reign of king James I. In which many other particulars, highly characteristic of the people, and the manners of the times, occur; and from which I ſhall perhaps make a few other quotations, if these ſhall seem to be received with favour.

IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE TO MANUFACTURERS.

THE ice is now broken. Manufactures, without the aid of bounties, or premiums, or bribes, or any of those arts that have so often been tried to force busineſs, contrary to na-

* By this blasphemous expreſsion the writer means to compliment his majesty with the name of *maker*. He was indeed the bountiful maker of that overgrown fortune which he had obtained by a series of such despicable flatteries as the above. *Edit.*

† He means his mother and his wife, but the expreſsion which he uses is incredibly groſs. The same expreſsion is repeated in other of his

ture, are now about to be establifhed in the Hebrides, merely for the profit of the manufacturer, the only sure foundation on which they can ever stand. These, it is to be supposed, will gradually extend themselves. The people will then find employment at home. Instead of being a ufelefs burden upon the land, they will become respectable purchasers of its produce. Those fetters that have chained them down to idlenefs and poverty will be broken, and they will become active citizens of the state.

Mr David Dale, and Walter Campbell of Shawfield, esq. proprietor of the island of Isla, two men whose names will long be revered in the west of Scotland, have effected this desirable change. Mr Dale, finding that his demand for manufactures far exceeds what he could supply by means of the hands he can obtain in Lanarkfhire, applied to Mr Campbell, who resides nearly one half of the year in Islay, to see if he could find any weavers in that island who would engage to work to him; offering, if Mr Campbell would become surety to the amount of L. 2000, that the goods he fhould entrust among his people to that amount fhould be faithfully accounted for to him, he would in that case engage to find constant work for fifty looms in the island. Mr Campbell, who is ever attentive to the welfare of his people, and the improvement of his estate, and who knows their dispositions, as they do his, hesitated not one moment to close with the proposal; and every thing is now going forward to carry the agreement into immediate execution.

No sooner did other manuafcturers hear of this, than they naturally wifhed to participate in the advantages they

letters. When the Editor said that the duke "used the figure of *pars pro toto*, well known in vulgar rhetoric," he had the misfortune not to be understood by some of his *readers*. *Note of lord Hailes.*

foresaw Mr Dale would derive from this enterprise. No lefs than four of these have already made offer, each to send over to the island of Islay an overseer, well acquainted with the businefs, who would each of them undertake to teach thirty apprentices in the art of weaving, if Mr Campbell approved of the undertaking, and would erect convenient houses for their accommodation. Mr Campbell, on his part, was satisfied, if the terms they offered fhould be such as to satisfy the other persons concerned. The manufacturers offered to take apprentices, if of fourteen years of age or upwards, to be bound for four years; or for five years, if they were from twelve to fourteen years of age;—to find them in tools, and instruct them in the businefs, and to allow them at the rate of L.8 a-year, wages, during the whole time they were bound; and to give them, at the end of their time, the loom and apparatus they had used free to themselves. These terms pleased the people. Mr Campbell on his part undertook to build the houses. Apprentices are engaging; and the whole businefs is to commence as soon as the necefsary accommodation can be provided for them. Thus will there be establifhed at once, in the island of Islay alone, no lefs than an hundred and seventy weavers, who are certain of finding constant employment. How many more may be formed under their auspices, time only can discover.

It is in this way I have always contended that industry fhould be establifhed in these countries; and not by means of premiums, bounties, bribes, or charitable contributions; all of which are limited in their operation, and liable to such abuses as to give more room to frauds and deceit, than to steady and unabating industry. At the present moment, the demand for the manufactures of Britain is such, as to render it impofsible for master manufac-

turers to execute their orders. In the road now chalked out to them, many thousands of useful hands may be obtained at a much more moderate rate, than in any other situation. Those distresses which have driven so many of these valuable inhabitants to seek shelter in a foreign land, will be alleviated; and instead of being a burden on the community, these men will add to the strength, the wealth, and the revenue of this country. Two things only are wanted to effect all this; *viz.* that gentlemen of property in those parts, shall see their interest so well, as to close with any proposals to that effect that may be made to them by manufacturers, in the same liberal way that Mr Campbell has done, so as to erect houses for their people in such places as admit of a ready communication with other places; and that they exert themselves to get the coast duty on coals taken off, and get all the narrow seas between the isles and the mainland, declared friths, so as to admit of being navigated with the same freedom as English friths, without which the industry of these parts must be long dreadfully repressed.

In what I here say, manufactures and agriculture alone are the objects in view; but if the full prosperity of the country be aimed at, the fisheries should be taken into the account; which, without material alterations in the salt laws, can never become an object of consequence to these coasts.

ANECDOTE.

Herminio Grimaldi, a Genoese, was the richest, and at the same time the most avaricious man of his time in Italy. He did not know what it was to do a kindness to his fellow citizens, nor to be polite to strangers. *William Borsieri*, a man of condition, who had heard of the humour of

Grimaldi, went to see him one day, at a pretty enough house which he had caused lately to be built. After having seen the apartments, which were ornamented with curiosities, "Well!" says the proprietor to him, "you who have so extended a knowledge, can you tell me any thing new, which you have not seen here, and which I can cause to be made into a picture for this house?" Borsierri, surprised at this question, answered him, that he could give him the subject of an excellent picture, which ſhould represent a thing which was wanting at his house, and which was never seen there. Being preſsed to tell the name of it, "I would advise you," said he, "to make a painting of Generosity." Grimaldi, struck with that word, took his part immediately. "Yes, Sir," answered he with a vivacity which was not usual to him, "I will cause it to be represented in such a manner, that nobody ſhall be able to reproach me with not having known it." From that moment he changed his conduct entirely; and made so splendid a use of his great riches, that they speak of nothing but the magnificence and liberality of Grimaldi.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The corrections by *C. S.* are received, and ſhall be adopted.

The communication by *Timothy Sober* is come to hand and under consideration.

A *Constant Reader* is respectfully informed, that it was altogether impoſsible to comply with his request; besides the Editor has no acceſs to obtain any *original* information respecting the two conspicuous characters he mentions.

In answer to *Owen*,—the Editor must wait the determination of others on the subject about which he enquires; but he hopes to have it soon.

Neither the subject nor the execution of the communication by *Apis Amicus*, deserve the notice of the readers of the Bee. His corrections are received.

The communication by *P. P.* the Editor suspects is not an original.

The letter of another respectable correspondent, whose signature he does not wiſh to be mentioned, is duly received.

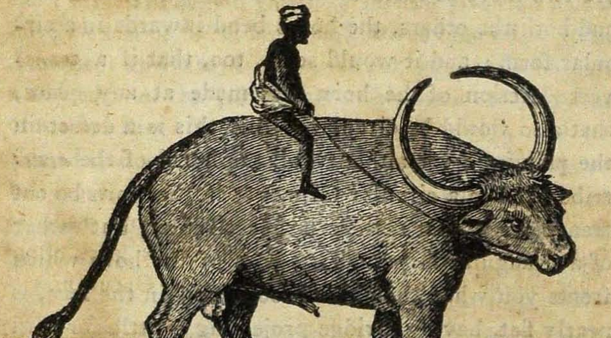
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12. 1792.



THE ARNEE, OR GREAT INDIAN BUFFALO,

A NON-DESCRIPT ANIMAL OF THE OX KIND.

THIS animal is hitherto unknown among the naturalists in Europe. It is a native of the higher parts of Hindostan, being scarcely ever found lower down than the plains of Plafsy, above which they are found in considerable numbers, and are well known

by the natives. Europeans being unacquainted with the name, improperly call it the buffalo, which it resembles not at all in the horns, in which member the buffalo is conspicuously different from other animals of the *bos* tribe.

The figure above given is copied from a curious Indian painting in the possession of Gilbert Innes of Stow, esq. It forms one of a numerous group of figures represented at a grand Eastern festival. There are two more of them in the same painting. In this and both the others, the horns bend inwards in a circular form; and it would seem, too, that if a transverse section of the horn was made at any place, that also would be circular. But this is a defect in the painting; for although all the horns of the *arnee* tribe bend in a circular form, yet if the horn be cut transversely, that section is not circular, but rather of a triangular shape. That part of the horn which fronts you when the animal looks you in the face, is nearly flat, having a ridge projecting a little forward all along, near the outer curvature of the horn; from that ridge, outward, it goes backward,—not at right angles, but bending a little outward; and near the back part there is another obtuse rounded ridge, where it turns inward, so as to join in another obtuse rounded angle at the inner curvature of the horn. Along the whole length, especially towards the base of the horn, there are irregular transverse dimples, or hollows and rugosities, more nearly resembling those of a ram than that of a common ox's horn; but no appearance of rings, denoting the age of the animal, as in the horns of our cattle.

This description of the horn is taken from a pair of real horns of the animal, with the bones of the head, now in the pofsefsion of Mr James Haig, merchant in Leith, that were sent home to him this year by his brother Mr William Haig, of the Hawkefbury East Indiaman; who, for his singular attention to the objects of natural history, deserves a high degree of honour from his countrymen. The animal which furnifhed these horns was found in a situation near which no other animal of this sort had ever before been discovered. It was killed by the fhip's company in the river Ganges, about fifty miles below Calcutta, at the place where the fhips usually lie. From whence it had come no conjecture can be made; but it can hardly be supposed it could have been carried by the current from above Plafsy to this place, without going afhore; but wherever it came from, the creature was alive at the time they perceived it, and was killed and eat by the fhip's company, and deemed by them very good meat.

The *arnee* is by far the largest animal of the ox tribe yet known. In its native country it is said to measure usually twelve, sometimes fourteen, feet from the ground to the highest part of the back. The one here represented, considering the man on its back as a scale, would not seem to have been quite so tall. The animal killed by the Hawkefbury's company was only a young one; the exact age cannot be now ascertained, as the teeth are all gone. When cut up, it weighed 360 pounds the quarter, which is 1440 lb. the carcase. If we suppose this animal to have been of an ordinary size, from two

to three years old, and lean at the time, we might easily conceive that if it had attained its full growth, and been fully fatted, it might have weighed three times that weight, or upwards of 4000 lb. that is two ton weight, the four quarters,—an immense size of an animal.

From the appearance of the three animals of this sort, in the painting above referred to, it would seem that it is quite docile and easily tamed; for they are all standing quietly, with a person on their back, who guides them by means of a rein, being a cord fastened to the gristle of the nose in the Eastern manner, and not in the mouth, as the engraver by mistake has made it in our plate.

There seems to be another defect in the drawing, when compared with the bones of the head in Mr Haig's posſeſsion; for in our drawing, the head seems to be thicker and ſhorter than that of an ordinary ox; but in Mr Haig's, the bone seems to be longer in proportion to its breadth, than an ox's head usually is with us. Whether this has been only an accidental deviation from the common form, or whether the original drawing has been incorrect, we are not authorised to say. The tail is also a little longer in our figure, than in the copy from which it was taken. The other proportions are well preserved.

The colour of this animal in all the three figures, is a pure black all over, except between the horns, where there is a small tuft of longiſh hair, of a bright red colour.

Upon the whole, the singular conformation of the horns of this animal, sufficiently distinguishes it from all others of the ox kind, that have been hitherto described by naturalists, and points it out as a distinct variety. Its size also would alone be nearly sufficient to have made this probable. What its other qualities are, and, in particular, whether it could ever be introduced with profit, as a domestic animal, into any part of Europe, cannot, in the present state of our knowledge, be ascertained.

There are a pair of very large horns, nearly resembling these in respect to their curvature, in the museum of Dr Walker, professor of natural history in the University of Edinburgh; but as these are nearly circular every where, if cut transversely, it would seem that they must have belonged to some other animal of the ox tribe, and not the *arnee*.

Nothing farther needs to be observed, unless it be that the horns rise right upwards, nearly in the same plane with that of the forehead, neither bending forward nor backward at the point. The horn for its size, is much thinner and lighter than that of an ordinary ox.

Dr Walker has also in his museum a pair of horns, evidently of an animal of the goat kind, of uncommon size, measuring about three feet in length. These horns came from the East Indies, and must have belonged to some creature found in the internal parts of those unknown countries. Any notices respecting this creature, or the arnee, from our correspondents in India, will prove highly acceptable.

ON VEGETABLE POISONS, THE MEANS OF WEAKENING THEIR VIRULENCE, AND OF SOMETIMES CONVERTING THEM INTO WHOLESOME FOOD.

THE root of the *manioc* is a noted poison, which, when freed from its native juice, becomes a nutritive food, under the name of *cafsada*. In this particular there is nothing, however, surprising; because it is merely by separating the noxious from the wholesome parts, by a very simple procefs, that this change is effected. Our object is at present to inquire if, without any abstraction of parts, some vegetable poisons may not be deprived of their virus, and become nutritive food.

Opium is a vegetable poison of great power; yet by habit the human frame can become gradually so deadened to its influence, as to be able to bear, without inconvenience, perhaps a thousand times more at one time than would have been sufficient to kill at another. Is this the case with other noxious plants? The experience of man with respect to tobacco, would seem to say it is. Are there any means of accelerating that effect? Here, I am afraid, *experience* fails us, and *experiment* ought to be called in to its aid. The following facts respecting this subject will open a wide field to the speculative mind.

The yew tree, (*taxus baccata, Lin.*) is well known to be poisonous to domestic animals in general; and numerous are the well authenticated instances of its fatal effects on such of them as have been induced

through hunger to taste it; yet it is also a well authenticated fact, that in the country of Hefse it is a very common practice to feed their beasts during winter, with the fresh shoots of the yew tree, which, under their management, proves a wholesome, nourishing, and fattening food, both for cows and horses.

This singular fact having come to the knowledge of M. WIBORG, second profefsor of the Royal Veterinary School at Copenhagen, it appeared to him of such consequence, as to merit very particular investigation. He at first suspected that the poison of the yew tree, like the venom ascribed to toads, and some other unsightly animals, might have been only imaginary; but by some very decisive experiments conducted by himself, he soon found that the yew is indeed a very effectual poison to domestic animals, when taken even in very small quantities.

He then began to suspect that the plant which was called the yew tree in Hefse, might be a tree of some other kind, which had been improperly so named; as we in Scotland call a certain kind of potatoes, *yams*, though they are in fact of a very different genus from the true yam, (*dioscoria alata.*) To ascertain if this was the case, and to obtain a knowledge of some other circumstances, he resolved to take a journey into Hefse in person. There he found the tree to be the common yew, in all its botanical characteristics, appearance, and habitudes.

To try whether some peculiarity of soil or climate might not there have altered its *virus*, he administered the same quantity of its leaves to a horse that he had found prove fatal in Denmark. The

horse died in an hour after having swallowed it. The tree here is therefore the same in every respect as in other parts of the country, and proves equally noxious to animals as elsewhere. How then comes it that they find it a wholesome winter food?

He next began to suspect he had been misinformed as to this fact; but upon inquiry he found also that he had not been here deceived.

His next object was to inquire into the mode of treatment of the animal when they administered that food. In regard to this particular he was informed, that, at the beginning, great caution was required to give it only in small quantities, along with other food, and to be sparing of water; but that as the animals became habituated to it, lefs caution was necefsary; and that they gradually augmented the quantity of yew, till it became the principal part of their food, though they never kept them on that food entirely by itself.

From these particulars it occurred to our attentive investigator, that it was probable the poisonous effects of this plant might be counteracted by the effects of the other food that was taken along with it. To ascertain this point the following experiment was made.

Mr Wiborg by several preceding experiments had found, that eight ounces of frefh yew leaves, administered *by itself* at one dose, was sufficient to kill any horse. He tried to give it in smaller quantities *by itself;* but on account of the disagreeable taste of the leaves, he could not prevail upon the horse he got for the purpose, even by long fasting,

to eat of it thus at all. He was therefore obliged to abandon the experiment in this form. He then cut eight ounces of the leaves, and mixed them with twenty ounces of oats. The mixture was then eaten greedily, and the horse continued as well afterwards as ever.

Our cautious experimenter, not yet satisfied, suspected, that as this horse was thin and emaciated, the irritability of the animal fibres might thus be diminiſhed, and that *poſsibly* somewhat of the effect might be attributed to that cause. He therefore repeated the same experiment with another horse in good order and high health. The mixture was eaten with the same reliſh as if the oats had been pure, and the horse never discovered the smallest symptoms of uneasineſs, but continued equally lively and healthy as before.

From these experiments he concludes, that other kinds of food, taken along with plants which are by themselves destructive to animal life, may totally counteract these noxious qualities, so as to render the same substances nutritious, which would otherwise have been poisonous ; and that by degrees the constitution of an animal may thus be so much habituated to it, as, with very little addition, to find an abundant nouriſhment from vegetables, which, without these precautions, would prove not only useleſs but noxious.

We regret that these experiments were not puſhed farther ; but the difficulty of procuring animals for trying such dangerous experiments, is a very sufficient reason for their being so rarely met with. The

experience of the Hefsians seems to prove, that other kinds of food, besides oats, may be employed for this purpose; because we cannot suppose that domestic animals are subsisted chiefly upon oats there more than elsewhere; and as no mention is made of any peculiarity of food, we must suppose they used only straw or hay along with the yew tree. Many facts, that have incidentally attracted the notice of attentive observers, will recur to their memory, as tending to corroborate these conclusions.—Of this nature are the following:

Linnæus, in his journey through Lapland, remarks, that about the village of Torneo in Lapland, a mortality used to attack the cattle in the spring of each year, which carried off great numbers of them at that season. This set him to examine the meadows around the town, on which these cattle fed, to see if he could discover any noxious plants growing there, which might occasion that fatality. He there in effect did find a considerable quantity of the *cicuta aquatica*, which the half famifhed animals cropped at that season, and the mortality he ascribes to that cause; and as the mortality subsides as the season advances, it may be attributed to the cattle leaving the hemlock untouched, when other plants could be found in abundance. It may be so;—but from these experiments may we not also have reason to suspect, that as the other plants spring up in greater abundance, they then begin to operate as an antidote to the hemlock; so as that, even if the cattle fhould still continue to eat it, it would not prove hurtful but salutary to them? Have we not also reason to

conjecture, that by trying proper kinds of food along with that plant, the inhabitants might at length discover which of them counteracted its operation the best, so as to enable the inhabitants still to avail themselves of this early growing plant, as a valuable and [then] nourishing food for their cattle?

Linnæus likewise remarks, that horses and cattle which have been accustomed to feed in the open fields, are frequently hurt when carried into woodlands; while others which have been accustomed to go in the woods suffer no inconvenience from them. This he attributes to their eating noxious plants, which those animals who have been accustomed to feed there have learnt to avoid. May we not with equal reason suspect, that it may be owing to the strange animals not being accustomed to relish the kinds of food that would prove antidotes to the plants that poison them, exactly in the same way that strangers carried from Europe into the tropical regions, though they relish the succulent foods that there abound, cannot at first bear such a quantity of hot condiments as the natives of warm regions naturally employ as a corrector to the effects of their common food? In confirmation of this idea, I suppose it will be found, that animals which have been accustomed to run in woods, eat of a greater variety of plants found there, than those which are first introduced from open fields.

The uses that might be derived from a set of judicious experiments, conducted on the plan of those of Mr Wiborg, not to extirpate plants that are at present deemed noxious to animals, but to convert

these into nourishing food, by conjoining them with others, might be very great; because it might often happen, as in the instance of the yew tree, before us, that these noxious plants might afford abundant food, at a season of the year when others could not be found; or that the soil was fitted to produce a greater quantity of nutriment by yielding these plants than any others. Were these experiments also pushed as far as was necessary, might we not discover means of correcting those diseases in animals that originate from noxious plants;—not by means of medicines, which too often tend to weaken the animal, and prevent its fattening; but by means of a proper mixture of other nourishing food, which should, altogether, tend to carry the animal forward in a continued state of progressive amelioration?

On the comparative influence of agriculture and manufactures upon the morals and happiness of a people, and the improvement and stability of states.

A sensible correspondent, (Bee, vol. ix. p. 84,) has made some pertinent remarks on the probable danger of turning too much of our attention to manufactures, particularly in respect to the effect it may have on the morals of the people. As the happiness of a nation depends much more on the purity of the morals of its people, than on any other cause, this is a circumstance that ought to be carefully adverted to by all who have a desire to promote the prosperity

of a country. I ſhall therefore appropriate a few pages for the purpose of discovering whether or not the apprehensions of the ingenious writer above quoted be well founded.

The most obvious consideration that occurs, when agriculture and manufactures are considered as affecting each other, is, that manufacturers, by becoming purchasers of the produce of the fields, offer encouragement to agriculture; and that, of course, the greater the number of manufacturers there are in any country, the more prosperous will the agriculture of that country be.

There is, however, a fallacy in this reasoning; and unleſs several circumstances are attended to, and guarded against, the conclusion here drawn may be very unjust. In many situations a great part of the subsistence of manufacturers may be drawn from foreign parts; and where that is the case, the agriculture of the country is not encouraged in proportion to the prosperity of its manufactures. If laws are injudiciously made, so as to cramp the operations of agriculture, the prosperity of manufactures may even, in some circumstances, retard the progreſs of agriculture; for by raising the wages of servants it diminiſhes the farmer's profit; who finding greater returns for money and attention in prosecuting manufactures, than in cultivating ground, the capitals of the most enterprising individuals will be withdrawn from rural operations, and vested in manufactures; and with the general poverty of the tenants, the progreſs of improvements by them must be greatly retarded.

The argument above stated is fallacious in still another point of view. Manufactures can only augment the demand from the farmer, in consequence of augmenting the total numbers of the people. If, for example, one thousand persons are employed in agriculture, they will require just as much food as if five hundred of these were employed in manufactures and five hundred in agriculture. There will therefore in this case be the same encouragement to agriculture with or without manufactures. It may occasion, however, a considerable difference to individuals, and the consequences to the state may be, in the end, extremely dissimilar.

Whatever tends to augment the proportion of *free* produce on a farm, will, in the first instance, tend to augment the farmer's profit, and consequently the amount of rent he can afford to pay for his farm. If, with ten servants, he can produce a thousand bolls of grain, of gross produce, and if the expence of each servant be equal to the price of twenty bolls, on an average, two hundred out of the ten will be expended in that way. If two hundred also shall be required for seed, he will have only six hundred left for paying rent and all other expences. But say, that, by a different mode of management, the same produce could be reared with five servants, then he would expend on them only one hundred bolls, and if the other expences were the same, he will have an additional profit, equal to the price of one hundred bolls; so that whatever be the consequence to the nation at large, he finds it greatly his interest to diminish the number of the people on his farm.

By the same mode of reasoning we might ſhow, that, after making this reduction in his servants, he would find himself better than formerly, if he ſhould now be able to rear no more than nine hundred and twenty bolls, in place of rearing a thousand bolls of groſs produce, as at first for; in this case he would be benefitted to the amount of twenty bolls, though the actual produce of the country were diminiſhed eighty bolls by this change. In this way the rents of many estates have been actually advanced in Scotland, while their real produce has been diminiſhed.

The demand, therefore, for the produce of agriculture, by manufacturers, may be only apparent; and the farmer, by diminiſhing his labourers, may have more free produce while the actual g ſs produce of the country has been diminiſhed; so that both these striking proofs of the prosperity of a country may be fallacious.

To the philosophical statesman, the number of the active citizens which can be s pp rted in the state, affords the truest criterion of its power; but, like numbers in an army, he knows that unleſs means can be devised for giving them a constant supply of food, and enabling them to find the means of obtaining that food, at all times, they will be apt to be thrown into the most fatal disorders. It becomes a great object of his attention, therefore, to guard against these disorders; in the same manner as it requires the greatest exertions in a ſkilful general to provide stores and forage for his army at all times.

From these considerations, disregarding the accidental profits that may accrue to individuals from particular considerations, he will only consider the general effect that is to be derived to the whole community from such an arrangement. Hence he will naturally say, since, in consequence of particular arrangements, the same number of people may be subsisted in the country by following agriculture chiefly as a busineſs, or by engaging in manufactures, it is his duty to consider whether the happineſs of the people, and the tranquillity of the state, would be most promoted by inducing them to pursue the one or the other of these modes of life; supposing it were in his power. This is the question I wiſh to investigate at present.

There is one very striking difference that must occur to every one who views the same number of persons as employed in agriculture, or in manufactures; *viz.* the great fluctuation in the earnings of the people, in the last claſs, in comparison of those in the other. Manufactures are subjected to great variations in the demand at market. Sometimes the orders for those of one sort, are so great, that the highest exertions are required for supplying that demand. During this period, every thing aſsumes the most inviting appearance. The master manufacturers have it in their power to enhance the price or diminiſh the quality. Their profits are great. Every one is anxious to obtain as great a ſhare as poſsible, in this gainful busineſs; he tries to obtain as many hands as poſsible; journeymen, of course, become scarce and obtain higher wages; this induces

more persons to enter into that business. All is life and bustle; and smiling prosperity brightens every countenance. The lower clasṡes of the people are enabled to pick and cull the nicest viands, for rearing which the farmer gets great prices, so as to enable him to abandon more common articles of produce. But in a short time, a change of fashion,—such a trifle as a shoe string being adopted in place of a buckle, or a clasp instead of a button, makes a total stagnation in this once flourishing business. The master manufacturers finding no more demand for their goods, cannot keep their journeymen longer; and as these in general work by piece-work, it costs him but a word to discharge one or two hundred persons; who are thus thrown at once out of employment, and consequently experience the greatest distress, till they can find some other means of subsistence. The luxuries which the farmer used to rear for their use, are now allowed to remain upon hand. He, depending on these sales, is reduced to distress; and complaints are loud and universal. No such changes can ever be experienced by men who follow agriculture. Neither the encouragement, nor the discouragement, are nearly so great. So that this political malady, which is one of the severest that can affect a state, is never experienced.

Other evils, that are the consequences of it, are equally guarded against. Men in the lower ranks of life, who are enabled to earn more wages than is necessary to subsist themselves in the way they have been accustomed to live, usually become idle and dissipated; they spend their superfluous earnings in

drunkenneſs and debauchery. One person seduces another;—their morals become corrupted, and their manners irregular. Persons of this description are, of all others, the worst to manage in a state. While they enjoy the sunſhine of prosperity, they are riotous and factious. Ever ready to run into extremes, they become the willing tool of every desperate man who wiſhes to raise disturbances in the state. A Catiline has only to appear, and he finds them ready for his purpose. Such persons are, of all others, the most unfit to bear those checks, and reverses of fortune, to which manufacturers must ever be subjected. Hence, it happens, that manufacturing towns become such fertile nurseries of thefts and robberies, and every species of depredations. These diſsipated persons become a charge on the pariſh, or they go to the highway or the gallows.

Such exceſses are never experienced in rural situations, where men follow the peaceable employment of agriculture. Their labour is constant and equal; — they are never overdone, and never idle; — their sustenance is equally certain, uniform, and moderate;—they do not aſsociate together in such numbers, and are by consequence leſs liable to be seduced by the contagion of bad example.—Being actively employed in the fields during the whole week, Sunday becomes a day of rest; and divine service is to them a pleasing amusement. Every mind that is not corrupted by vicious habits, is fond of being informed. On this principle, they become interested in the duties of religion, and attentive to the discourses of their pastors. In ſhort it is

scarcely poſsible for a person who has not had acceſs to behold it nearly, to form an idea of the immense difference that there is between the innocent simplicity of heart of the inhabitants of the country, compared with the irreligion and immorality of the lower claſses of people in towns. I hence conclude, that a state which contains a given number of people, chiefly employed in agriculture, affords to the natives a greater ſhare of domestic happineſs, and is infinitely more stable, leſs subject to distreſs arising from tumults and disorders of every sort, than one where manufactures furniſh the chief employment of the people.

From the same considerations, I agree with the sensible correspondent above referred to, in thinking, that when a state becomes intoxicated by extraordinary succeſs in manufactures, it is in a very tickliſh situation indeed; and that in proportion to the uncommon flow of prosperity in that department, which accidental circumstances may confer upon it, the greater room there is to fear that its prosperity approaches towards a crisis. Were it even poſsible to guard against a check in the demand, the dangers to be dreaded from a long flow of prosperity, are little ſhort of those that result from a sudden slackening of busineſs: for nations, like individuals, wax wanton with prosperity, and run into exceſses which neceſsarily produce their ruin.

Not only is the present tranquillity of the state, and the happineſs of the people leſs, if manufactures be the chief employment of the people, than agriculture; but the probability of its future advance-

ment in point of population and general industry is much diminiſhed.

From what has been already said, it is evident, that when great wealth is acquired by a temporary demand for manufactures, the farmer finds it his interest, in the first place, to diminiſh, as much as poſſible, the number of hands he employs, although, by doing so, he be certain of diminiſhing the total produce of his farm; and in the next place, by getting a high price for meat and delicacies, he finds it his interest to rear a much greater proportion of animals, and leſs corn, than formerly. But as a field under judicious culture, will, in all cases, produce a much greater quantity of human sustenance, than when employed in rearing animals, it happens, that in this way the total amount of human sustenance, raised in the country, may be prodigiously diminiſhed; while agriculture, on a superficial view, seems to be in a more thriving state than before; that is, while the farmer lives better and pays more rent than formerly.

In this way we are easily enabled to solve the difficulty that so much puzzled the Lords of Treasury two years ago to account for; *viz.* to reconcile the idea of the prosperous state of agriculture in this country, for some years past, to the facts they discovered, that the actual produce of the country in corn, had been, during that period, considerably diminiſhed.

From the facts above stated, we ſhall also be enabled to account for another phenomenon, that has afforded much matter for speculation during the

present summer; *viz.* the unusual price of meat in England. Never were manufactures known to be in such a prosperous state in Britain as at present;—never were wages so high;—never could operative manufacturers earn near so much money;—never of course could they afford to purchase so many delicacies in the way of food:—greater therefore was the demand for *fine* joints of meat than ever; and as the quantity to be brought to market, could not keep pace with the demand, the necessary consequence was a rise of price. This rise of price will of course induce the farmer to raise a greater quantity of these articles in future; more ground will thus be abstracted from the plough; less produce will be obtained from the soil; and our dependence on foreign countries for food must be proportionally augmented.

In this way does an undue demand for manufactures necessarily induce a kind of temporary prosperity, which excites a spirit of wantonness, that tends to sap the foundations of the stable prosperity of a state. The *first* consequence of this extraordinary spirit is wealth to all. The *next* is the deterioration of the soil; for I call every thing a deterioration that diminishes the gross produce of the fields. A *third* consequence is the diminution of labour; for when men can earn much more than will furnish for their daily subsistence, they abandon their work at pleasure; a consequence of this is a want of hands, and an increase of wages in every case. A rise in the price of every article of necessary consumption is then unavoidable. Hence,

at present, the rise in the price of coals, so severely felt in every part of this country. These things may continue for a time to be felt, and complained of as a hardſhip ; but so long as the demand for manufactures continues briſk, these inconveniences can be borne. But if ever a permanent slackening in that demand ſhould take place, the consequences would be dreadful.—Men who had been used to fare luxuriously, being turned out of employment, would find it a matter of the utmost difficulty to subsist in any other way ;—the farmer who found a slackened demand for the articles he used to rear, and on which he made his rent, would be compelled to reduce the price below what he could afford. The consequences might be traced minutely ; but it is an ungracious taſk. They are too obvious.

I conclude, that the prosperity that results from an extraordinary demand for manufactures, is a political disease of the most dangerous tendency. It is a poison that produces a pleasing delirium, which, like that from opium, must end in a miserable death. Sober minded persons, therefore, will look upon this general intoxication without participating in the phrenzy it produces ; and will regret that circumstances ſhould here so unfortunately concur to cheriſh it.

SIR, TO THE EDITOR OF THE BEE.

THIS poem, and the few others which accompany it, were extracted from three manuscript volumes I lately got. I do not vouch them for originals that were never publiſhed, though I bought them as such; but suspect I may have been taken in. *Most of them seem to have been written forty or fifty years ago. If you think them worthy of a place in your Miscellany they are much at your service.* F. J.

THE COUNTRY PARSON.

IN IMITATION OF HORACE'S COUNTRY MOUSE.

Rusticus urbanum murem, &c. B. ii, Sat. 6.

HARD by the side of Snowdon's lofty hill,
Inclos'd with thickets and a purling rill,
There liv'd an honest vicar, free from strife,
Tho' clogg'd with that tempest'ous thing,—a wife.
Neat was his house, and humble tho' not mean,
Fine without cost, tho' elegantly clean:
In this parochial state he spent his years,
Nor rais'd by fortune, nor depreſs'd by cares;
Grave, and close fisted, yet who once did treat
A London rector, at this humble seat;
A priest well known at court, in daily wait,
On biſhops, lords, and ministers of state;
Could flatter, fawn, and cringe,—call this man brother,
Say one thing openly, but mean another.
Both were at Cambridge bred, and both had spent
Seven studious years in friendſhip and content:
But this by hating Tory and Pretender,
Had gained a living from our faith's defender
On Cambria's hills, and now came down that way,
To see his tenants, and receive his pay:
The rev'rend vicar treats his cringing guest
With all the rarities his house poſsest.
The beer was tapt, with cyder rough and sweet,
And beef and pork serv'd up, which lords might eat;
Next came the produce of the female goats,
And apples bluſhing in their ruddy coats.
All these were order'd that the guest might see
How Wales abounded in variety:
But no such food could gratify his taste,
He loads his trencher with indecent waste;
Sticks his fork lightly in the smoking meat,
And, loathing, praises what he's forc'd to eat.
Now dinner's o'er, the night with mirth is crown'd,
While loyal healths and witty jokes go round;

At last the courtier, mellow grown and free,
Extols this unexpected luxury.
Alas! (cries he,) how hard's your present fate!
Small is your fortune, but your soul is great:
Sure this munificent, aspiring mind,
Was ne'er for cliffs, and poverty design'd.
Why ſhould a man of such transcendent worth,
Return unhear'd of to his native earth:
Let goats frequent the brake and savage den,
You ſhall see courts, know kings, converse with men:
Disdain old rusty hats, and thread bare gown,
And learn the niceneſs of th' engaging town.
First preach at court, then aſk some pretty see,
A living, chaplainſhip, or deanery:
Act against conscience, not afraid to lie,
And cry up Walpole's virtues to the ſky,
Then rail at St John, Pulteney, and the rest,
And always swear the present times are best.
Since life's still fleeting, and no man hath pow'r
To hasten or retard the destin'd hour;
Since great and small must render up their breath,
Nor Cambria's rocks can stand a siege with death,
Haste, haste with me, and thankfully receive,
All the kind gods, and kinder king can give.
But oh! what vicar with Socratic arms,
Cou'd e'er withstand preferment's easy charms?
His thoughts are center'd in some high degree,
His deſk's a throne, his vicarage a see.
With these delusions fir'd, he hates delay,
And eagerly pursues the joyful way.
Both bear th' inclemencies of wind and wet,
And reach St James's as the sun was set.
His lordſhip's house appears, the mastiffs roar,
Th' obsequious porter cringes at the door.
Up stairs they go, the courtier leads the way,
Unusual objects claim the vicar's stay.
He views the product of the curious loom,
And eyes both Indies in one splendid room.
Within the lobby of a dome of state,
Both with due patience for their supper wait;
At length repeated dainties grace the board,
Th' untasted offals of the piddling lord:
Ragouts, and ortolans, and costly fiſh,
Conceal diseases in the ſhining diſh.
Our servile courtier acts the well known part,
And helps the stranger with the nicest art;
Picks out the morsel that is choice and rare,
And cloys his stomach with luxuriant fare.
The exalted vicar owns his happy station,
Nor silently enjoys his new translation:

When lo! the steward with undaunted face,
Informs the courtier of his sure disgrace;
Cancels the honours which he had enjoyed,
And in one moment all his hope's destroyed.
The affrighted vicar in his wretched state,
Condemns his folly, but condemns too late,
Curses the court, and all the servile train,
Whose smile is treach'ry, and whose friendſhip's bane!
Farewell (he cries) St James's glitt'ring ſhow,
I'll to my vicarage and my mountains go;
There will I live, in unmolested ease,
On tythe pig, barn door fowls, and salutary pease.

A DESCRIPTION.

To the lily's milk-white glow
Add the rose-bud, ere it blow;
To Raphael's touch, and Titian's dye,
Add Correggio's symmetry:

Iv'ry bring from Afric's ſhore,
Corals thence, where billows roar;
Ebony, and ſhining jet,
All be in the caſket met:

In Arabia's land exhale,
Odours from the spicy gale;
Rich perfumes from India bring,
Catch the meadow's sweets in spring;

More the picture to adorn,
Draw the bluſhes of the morn;
In Aurora's flowing vest,
Lightly be the damsel drest:

Shape and air of Venus ſhow,
Let the Graces smiles bestow;
Lastly, to complete the whole,
Give the nymph Minerva's soul:

These, the poets all declare,
Constitute the charming fair;
These, if you search the world around,
In Celia only will be found.

MEMOIRS OF THE COUNT D'ALVARES.

Mankind are fond of novels and fictitious stories, because they often contain a series of wonderful and interesting events. The following story, strictly true in all its parts, is as surprising and ought to prove more interesting to every reader, than any fictitious tale; because it not only displays a series of wonderful and interesting events, but also exposes a faithful picture of the human mind in a variety of trying situations. It will, therefore, furnifh abundant subject of remark to the philosopher and moralist; but it would be impertinent to anticipate the reflections of the reader.

THE Count d'Alvares, grandee of Spain, was rich, powerful, and warmly enamoured of his wife. She was brought of bed of a son, and died three days after the birth of that child. The count, penetrated with grief, survived his wife but ten months. The young Alvares being left an orphan, lived under the guardianfhip of his uncle, a gentleman without fortune, and charged with a numerous family. The immense pofsefsions of his ward tempted him, and inspired him with the dreadful project of sacrificing the last fhoot of that illustrious family. A soul sufficiently atrocious to form such a design, is generally capable of putting it in execution. However, that savage uncle, not daring to fhed the blood of his nephew with his own hands, charged one of his servants with that barbarous commifsion, and delivered to him that young infant with an order to strangle him. The hands of the servant were not used to murder: encouraged, neverthelefs, by the hope of the reward which was promised him, he seized the victim, and, with a trembling hand, gave him three stabs with a poignard. The cries of the infant, his weaknefs, and the sight of the blood which sprung from the wound, moved the afsafsin. He stopt fhort and stood still. Being recovered from his fury, without considering his interest,

he carried the unfortunate infant to the surgeon of the nearest village. The wounds were not mortal, but considerable enough to leave ineffaceable marks on the ſhoulder of the count. The servant returned to his master, and told him that he had faithfully performed his orders. One readily believes what he wiſhes very much. That barbarous guardian calls together his relations, and tells them that his young ward had died of convulsions. The servant, to make that news more credited, puts some clothes into a coffin, and causes it to be solemnly interred. Some days after, that servant, afraid lest the truth might be discovered, returned to the surgeon to whom he had trusted the young Alvares;—took the child, and carried him to a village still farther off, where he delivered him to a peasant to whom he paid, *per* advance, a good sum for his pension. The young Alvares remained with that peasant till he was six years of age; but then the servant came again, and, to free himself from the dread which haunted him continually, he took away the count, and trusted him to a merchant who was to embark the next day for Turky. He gave money to that traveller; and, giving him to understand that it was the natural son of a gentleman of condition, he recommended it to him as an inviolable secret.

Mean while, the crime of the uncle was not long unpuniſhed. Death soon swept away his numerous family; all his children periſhed,—all his house was filled with mourning;—he was attacked himself with a mortal disorder. In that dreadful moment, penetrated with horror at his conduct, he felt remorse, and communicated his repentance and his fears to the accomplice of his atrocity. He confeſsed all that he had done. That confeſsion calmed the anxiety of the old man; and the hope of restoring to his nephew his estate, and his fortune, animated his spirits. He recovered, and employed all his care to find out the

retreat of his unfortunate ward: but his researches were long in vain. He learned at last, that the merchant had sold the young count to a Turk; that Turk had sold him again to an Englifh merchant, settled at Constantinople, who had returned to London accompanied by his slave.

Alvares sent immediately an exprefs to London; but he came too late; the young count was no longer in that capital: he learned only that the young man had behaved himself with so much discretion and fidelity to his master, that he, to recompence his zeal, had put him apprentice to a barber, where after having learned the razor, he had entered into the service of the count de Gallas, minister to the Emperor at the Britifh court. The count de Gallas had returned to Vienna; and his new servant had followed him. The old Alvares was not to be discouraged; he sent his confefsor to Vienna; but his nephew had not been with the count de Gallas for a long time. He was told, that after having been sometime valet de chambre to the count d'Oberstoff, he had married one of the count's lady's women, and had retired to Bohemia. That new incertitude sensibly afflicted the old Alvares.

Being once at Barcelona, his zeal for the house of Austria had determined him to lend the emperor four hundred thousand florins. Alvares addrefsed himself to that sovereign himself: he sent the confefsor to the court to acquaint him with his situation, his crime, and the extreme desire which he had to recover his nephew. The emperor, moved with the unfortunate situation of the uncle, and of the young Alvares, caused that same confefsor to be accompanied into Bohemia by one of his officers, charged with the most precise orders. They made the greatest inquiries; and it was not till after infinite researches, that they discovered the retreat of the young count d'Al-

vares. He was then *maitre d'hotel* to a gentleman. They interrogated him about his birth, and the first years of his life. The young *Alvares* answered that he was absolutely ignorant, either from whence he came, or to what family he belonged. That he only remembers that being a slave in Turky in his infancy, his master had told him that he was the son of a Spanifh nobleman: but that he could never reconcile the greatnefs of that birth with the unhappy situation to which his father had condemned him in his infancy. The confefsor desired leave to examine the fhoulders of the *maitre d'hotel*, and seeing plain marks of three stabs of a poignard, he did not hesitate to tell the heir of the house of Alvares, the danger which he had run, the crime of his uncle, and his remorse. The young Alvares, too much humbled since he had seen the day, to be proud of the rank and fortune which heaven had just given him, was not ambitious of the honours to which his birth might make him aspire. His wife, fearing that this advancement might separate her for ever from her husband, gave herself up already to the most violent alarms. The count, loving without ambition, came to Vienna, thanked the emperor for the trouble which he had condescended to take; received from that prince the reimbursement of the 400,000 florins; bought in Silesia the lands of Ratibot, where he retired with the countefs of Alvares his wife. Alvares was the son of a grandee of Spain;—he might have been one himself. He might have lived in the midst of greatnefs; but he would have been the destruction of a wife whom he loved. He chose rather to keep the faith which he had sworn to her, than to be decorated with honours and titles, which suppose virtues, but which do not always give them. He contented himself with transporting the greatest part of his fortune into Germany, and enjoying it in the bosom of friendfhip.

THE SAVAGE AND THE CIVILIZED MAN.

THE savage rises in the morning, and prowls through the forest for food,—if he finds it, he returns loaded to his wife, who cooks it for him; her portion is what he may leave of the hasty repast. If he is unsuccefsful in hunting, he takes in an additional hole in his girdle, and his family pines in want.

The civilized man gets up with the sun—pursues his daily occupation—and the sure prospect of a reward to his industry lightens the burdens of life;—while the arts of civilization afford a perpetual security against hunger, nakednefs, and cold.

The savage has a precarious support.—Nature, it is true, provides the crystal stream, and his bow may stop the deer in its course,—but the stream is often remote, and the track of the arrow is frequently untrue.

The civilized man may struggle with misfortunes; but he has a never-failing resource in the benevolence of society.

The inhabitant of the woods has but few ideas, and few pleasures,—these are of the ardent kind, and their acquisition often interferes with those of his fellow savages—the consequences are fatal.

The civilized man has a boundlefs circle of enjoyments. His views are expanded, his ideas unlimited, his hopes are excited by innumerable objects, and gratified ten thousand different ways. The legal restraints on his pleasures, appetites, and pafsions, enlarge the sphere of his felicity.

The savage, disengaged from the chace, or war, leads a life of stupid insensibility.—There can scarcely be said to be any progrefs, or succefsion of events, in his existence,—'tis one perpetual *now*.

The civilized man lives in himself—in his children—in the public,—and as he participates in the labours, he enjoys the happinefs of his country and of mankind.

The savage feels no anxiety for the future welfare of his family, however numerous it may be.—He propagate his kind like the wolf of the desart, and his offspring are abandoned to a wayward fate. The cares, the solicitudes the anticipations, and pleasures of life, are equally unknown to him.

The civilized man has his cultivated faculties continually employed to promote the happineſs of his family—every addition to it is a new pledge of future enjoyment.—He feels the protection of civil government, and he cheerfully contributes to its support.—Protected in his acquisitions by law, he contemplates the transmiſsion of his name, his inheritance, his rights, and privileges, to his posterity, with unspeakable pleasure.

The savage has no abiding place—his only defence from the inclemency of the ſkies, is in his case-hardened carcase.

The civilized man, wisely calculating for the future contingencies of the seasons, in the retreat reared by the joint labours of aſsociated industry, " smiles at the tempest, and enjoys the storm."

The savage, while young, feels and glories in the vigour of his nerves ;—like the young colt, he snuffs the wind, and braves the tempest ;—but mark his declining years,—time very early scars his visage, and the hanging down-drawn lip of the aged savage, fully evinces that his *last* are not his *best* days.

The civilized man preserves, by temperance, the vigour of youth, till an advanced period.—His declining years are crowned with respect and veneration—and his last repose is in the arms of filial affection.

MR DEMPSTER'S IMPROVEMENTS.

Extract of a letter from George Dempster of Dunichen, esq.

" I NEED not tell you the last morsel of Letham is feued off ; and houses, mills, *&c.* rising in it like magic, to my

own astonishment. My dead advance L. 47; and a rent of L. 5: 13: 4 in the year 1761, converted into L. 100 sterling in the year 1793."

In the Bee, vol. iv. p. 255, was given some account of the beginning of this village. The first lot of it was feued off in December 1790, and it is now completed. This is a convincing proof of the avidity with which the people in Scotland fly to places of refuge, when they are offered to them on reasonable terms. Mr. Dempster's improvement by this plan is very great, and his profits, as above stated, very considerable. But the rent he thus immediately draws is but a very small part indeed of his real profits. When the people have got a firm establishment, and become wealthy, they will require many articles of accommodation which can only be obtained from the adjoining lands. The soil around must thus be improved, and the rents keep pace with the growing wealth of the people, In this way, a gentleman of my acquaintance has benefitted his estate to the amount of nearly L. 1000 a-year, in the course of something less than a century past, without any outlay of money, merely by establishing a village on it, the whole feu duties arising from which, do not come to an hundred pounds.

Mr Dempster's improvements at *Skibo* in Sutherland, [see Bee, vol. iv. p. 255.] are going on with amazing rapidity. " The exertions of the new settlers, (says he,) astonish me. I doubt not but ten or twelve years of this system would leave little cultivable ground uncultivated. The dryness and warmth of that northern climate exceeds my expectation very far." It is a pleasing thing for a benevolent mind to see its exertions crowned with success. Of the progress of the manufactures there, and Mr Dempster's improvements by planting, *&c.* farther accounts well be given in some future number of this work.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19. 1792.

STATISTICAL NOTICES OF NORTH AMERICA.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM DR S——L S——TH OF PRINCETON, TO DR C——S N——T OF MONTROSE.

Continued from p. 95.

DEAR SIR, *Princeton, Feb.* 4. 1785.

SOME time since, I answered, according to my ideas, part of the inquiries put to me in your letter by Mr Rogers,—I proceed now to give as distinct answers as I can to those that remain.

You aſk, "Whether we observe the forms of good breeding? or whether, being so very free, we do not treat each other with haughtineſs?"

Our freedom certainly takes away the distinctions of rank that are so visible in Europe; and of consequence takes away, in the same proportion, those ſubmiſsive forms of politeneſs that exist there. You seldom see a superior treat an inferior with haughtineſs; but you see all, even to the lowest of the landholders, act with a certain air, that indicates they are sensible they are not in any

degree dependent on you. In the country, particularly, though the people are not rude, yet they have a manner that appears to those who have been accustomed to respect, to be rather forward and destitute of sufficient attention. The truth is, every man seems to carry about with him a consciousnefs that he is an independent citizen of an independent state. Our equality in condition produces a similar equality in our sentiments, and mode of behaviour towards each other; which, though it is not morose and haughty, has the appearance of being rough and unpolifhed. Politenefs, like knowledge, is perhaps more generally diffused among the body of the people here than in Europe; it does not, however, exist in such perfection in particular characters, or particular clafses here, as it does there.

"Are the people prone to law suits? or are these frequent or tedious among you?"

I believe the Americans are not unusually litigious; and, for expedition, the law is not very famous in any country. It is to be lamented, however, that law thrives among us much better than religion.

"Are your articles of export sufficient, *communibus annis*, to purchase all you *want* from Europe?"

They are amply sufficient to purchase all we *need*; but we have too many *wants*. It is one of the principal faults of the Americans, that they are too much addicted to ostentation; and, to gratify a vanity which the circumstances of the country contribute to cherifh, they are too willing to desire credit with

the merchant, and too ready to run that credit beyond their means. Our merchants, themselves, however, are much more generally in debt to foreigners than the people are to *them*. Our cities and towns are filled with merchandise, as if we were a wealthy and commercial people. We are not a commercial people; and we ought not as yet to attempt to become so. We may have trade to the value of our bulky exports; but this will not be great. An extensive commerce can be supported in a country like this, only by manufactures; and it is too early to introduce them with succefs in America. The ease with which the poor can procure lands in the back country, will, by taking off the hands, necefsarily make the price of labour too high to render manufactures practicable, for at least a century to come. We ought then to have but few merchants, and like many of the ancient republics, to turn our attention chiefly to the culture of the soil. We ought to live in that frugal way that is proper for hufbandmen, and safest for republicans. But our fathers, coming from a commercial country, have introduced ideas different from those that would perhaps best suit our real state of society. Whatever estimation, however, may be made of these reflections, certain it is our merchants have imported beyond their abilities; and foreigners, deceived with regard both to our poverty and wealth, have poured in upon us such a deluge of merchandise, as must necefsarily multiply bankruptcies, and make our own traders appear more difhonest than they are. Deceived, I say, with regard both to our poverty and wealth; for while some

foolishly thought we were almost perishing through want of the necessaries of life; others as foolishly thought there was no end to our wealth in this golden country. All these circumstances must greatly affect trade; and I am well assured that British merchants will have no security in this commerce with the United States, any farther than they receive immediate returns. Their rashness hitherto, since the war, must soon be dearly paid for. But our politicians here, treat with derision the reproaches which they sometimes see made against this country in the English papers,—that the Americans are ruining their credit as a people, and that they will be scorned for their dishonesty and fraud over the whole earth. Disappointed men, and immediate sufferers, will naturally express themselves with violence; but the failures of a few merchants will not bring any general imputation on the body of the people, by foreigners to whom they are not in debt. It is not a debt of the country, but of individuals: it was not contracted on the faith of the country, but particular men in Britain, from interested motives, rashly trusted some people here beyond all reason, and they must now pay the price of their folly. The truth is, many politicians here are rather pleased with the bankruptcies among the merchants, than apprehensive of any ill consequences from them. They say that these harsh means are necessary to bring our commerce to its proper state, to be just equal to the product of the land;—they will tend to destroy that spirit of luxury which would make us too dependent on other nations;—they will distress the British

merchants, which, to the populace here, would be a grateful retaliation upon them, for running with so much zeal, immediately after the war, to engrofs our trade by a credit that would make us still subservient and dependent on Britain. The Americans at large, wifh to break as far as pofsible their connections with your country, lest they fhould hereafter prove dangerous to us. They, therefore, rather enjoy the distrefses of the Britifh trade, than pity the merchants; in the hope that their lofses, making them more cautious, and, in particular, determining them to renounce their credit, which is so pernicious to us, we may stand upon a more equal footing with respect to all the nations of Europe. These, I believe, are the sentiments most prevalent in America, out of a few trading towns; and they sufficiently discover what safety there is in trusting our merchants, or what regard will be paid here to any complaints of difhonesty that may disturb the Exchange or coffee houses of London.

You inquire, "Whether any manufactures could be introduced here by emigrants? whether there is any hope that the materials of this country could be wrought in it for an export trade?"

In addition to what has been already suggested, it will perhaps be a sufficient answer to these questions, to inform you, that a common day-labourer earns his two-thirds of a Spanifh milled dollar *per* day. While this is the case, we can never manufacture so cheaply as we can import. Our manufactories, therefore, must, of necefsity, be very inconsiderable. The state of the lands in this country produces this effect; and the same cause must

operate in the same manner, till our lands are much more completely settled and cultivated, than they are at present. But a man can now procure his living out of the soil, with much more ease, health, and comfort to himself, than he can at the loom or in the ſhop. A few persons, only, are employed to work up the roughest materials of the country, in a coarse and hasty manner, for the wear of the farmer and his servants at their daily labour; or, when new, perhaps, for their holiday clothes. Spinning is always done in the farmer's house at those seasons, when, if they did not spin, they would be unemployed. And in the southern states, it is not uncommon for each family to have its own loom also. It often happens that tradesmen in the country, of every kind, make their trade a busineſs by the bye, and tillage their principal occupation; so much more secure and profitable an income is derived from the land which is obtained with ease, and held without dependence. If a manufacturer were to come to America, with an hundred workmen in his branch, they would probably all desert him before the end of two years.

The difference of ideas, between a young country of huſbandmen, and an old one of manufacturers, is almost inconceivable. And, therefore, men coming from Britain, full of their own ideas and habits, must frequently be most egregiously disappointed. There are few, even in this country, where they have the effects before their view, who have reflection enough to investigate the causes of that obvious difference which exists between America and Europe. It is frequently supposed to arise, not from the nature

of the country, and the degree of population, as it really does, but from the ignorance of the Americans. This, you may be sure, an American will not admit; and there are some plausible reasons against it. America was settled by Europeans, who came hither with all their native habits and ideas; and yet, from them, are derived our present manners and state of society: and the Europeans who now come among us, in general, presently fall into our customs and modes of living. This universal effect can arise only from certain causes; the most powerful and fundamental of which seems to be the easinefs of acquiring lands, and of working a comfortable subsistence out of the soil. These causes sway all persons of the most different occupations who come hither. Except merchants, blacksmiths, masons, carpenters, and a very few others, they all become husbandmen; not manufacturers. One proof of the imperfection of mechanic arts here, and of the small number of artizans that the country in its present state will maintain, is, that several trades are frequently exercised by one man; because otherwise he could not find employment for the whole of his time. For instance, a blacksmith is often a whitesmith at the same time, a carpenter a joiner, a mason a bricklayer, plaisterer, and white-washer; and, if you will allow me to put physicians in such company, they are generally physicians, surgeons, dentists, apothecaries, *&c.* all in one. We have not that division of the arts that is necefsary to their perfection; because the price of labour in America, renders it much cheaper to import, than to make any

of the finer species of manufactures; and the thin population of the country, renders it necefsary for one man often to exercise several occupations.

You inquire next, " Whether our public debt has been yet proportioned among the States? or any means devised for paying it?"

It is not yet yet perfectly proportioned; but every State is now paying what it supposes itself able to raise by taxes and imposts, relying on the United States to give it credit for the payments it ſhall have made; and to apportion its ſhare of the general debt with equity, as soon as Congrefs ſhall have determined, whether that apportionment ſhall be made according to the number of inhabitants in each, or according to the value of their landed property. It is a question will probably be decided without disfension*.

You inquire, " Are your people aware of the ruinous consequences of an increasing funded debt? are they disposed to guard against the improper consequences of an unlimited paper currency in private hands?"

I believe they are, in part at least, aware of both evils; and if we ſhall not soon be exposed to a new war, I have no doubt we ſhall avoid them with regard to our present debt, and our present banks.

" Are your people sensible of the necefsity of concord for their preservation? or are any of them disposed to hazard the interest of the public, in adherence to their own private opinions?"

* This object has been since effected, with many others hinted at in this paper as in contemplation. *Edit.*

It is too near the conclusion of the war, to have forgotten the first of these. And if the second has some examples in a few individuals, I believe it is far from being at present the common character of the Americans.

To be continued.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Mr Editor,

I recollect that some years ago, one of your well meaning Christians sent us over a book to be presented to a great personage, where he had just discovered, and happily proved her to be one of the beasts of the Revelations, with I forget how many horns, which ſhe was to exalt on as many turrets of Constantinople, after having completely subdued the infidels, according to the prophecy of holy writ. Now I make no doubt, but the good man intended this as a well turned spiritual compliment, although it happened, unfortunately, to be in a stile so very different from that of courts, that I forget if any one was found disposed to present the great lady with this symbolic portrait of armed power and conquest.

The recollection of this anecdote, has set me a looking among the many compliments paid to the National Aſsembly of France, if the same good Christian has not hailed them with the accompliſhment of another leſs mystic prophecy, which seems to be fully made out by the new order of things; *viz.* "that the last ſhall be first, and first last;" but on

finding nothing on the subject, I suspect he is searching the Revelations for one of his many horned monsters, which may be more suitable than the prophecies and doctrines of the New Testament. This hint, however, Mr Editor, I only throw out in pafsing, without the least intention to take the businefs out of such able hands; for I confefs myself lefs acquainted with the animals of the Revelations, than any other branch of zoology.

My real intention in sitting down, when those monsters came acrofs me, was not to meddle with sacred, but to correct an error in profane modern history, inadvertently fallen into by the learned and ingenious abbe Barthelemy, when he supposes he had got pofsefsion of all the manuscripts left by the curious Scythian traveller, the young Anacharses.

I flatter myself, on the contrary, to make it appear probable, that the hordes of Tartary still pofsefs a part of that treasure: nay, I doubt not but the learned will agree with me, that there is sufficient internal evidence of the following fragments being a part of the wise and curious remarks, made by that extraordinary Scythian fhepherd, during his instructive travels, although the name of the country where he collected them, cannot be ascertained in the mutilated state of the manuscript.

I am ignorant if the abbe's manuscript was in Greek, or in the Tartar language,—mine is in the last, and probably the original; for Anacharses would certainly *note*, like other travellers in his own tongue, although he might have understood perfectly the Greek. One thing I already persume in the

remarks of the ſhepherd, which I have with so much labour made out, that mankind were always pretty much the same, at the same periods of civilization; and that the proverb of the wise Solomon is perfectly true, *There is nothing new under the sun.*

Translation of a FRAGMENT *found in the baggage of a Tartar* MIRZA, *(prince,) killed in the storm of Iſsmael by the Ruſsians.*

ANACHARSES begins, (for I suppose they are his remarks,) " Amongst the various characters I met with in the civilized countries I visited, and which I looked up to with reverence, there were two which I looked down upon with more contempt than on the dung of the race of Shalana *.

" The first was called, I think, little *malakos;* a claſs of *men*, if their effeminate manners and looks merit that masculine appellation, who seemed only women in man's apparel; or rather in a dreſs between the two, almost as different from the garb of the philosophers as that of their wives. These insignificant teazing creatures, were eternally buzzing about the ladies, like flies about the fleet mares of our horde, which as soon as drove away, returned instantly to their noisy buzzing occupation.

" The other was a claſs much more dangerous, called fine gentlemen, or men of faſhion, *habros*, in derision, I presume; as in fact they did every thing which a real gentleman, and man of education and sentiment, was incapable of.

* A famous breed of Tartar horses.

" These differed likewise in their garb from men of sense, manners, and cultivation, as much as they did in morals, habits, and behaviour; in so much that I at first supposed them people trained to amuse the public by the oddity of their drefs, and the folly of their conduct, till I discovered they were too unprincipled and wicked to be licenced fools in so sage a state.

" *First*, I perceived there were no sort of difhonourable arts, nor mean lies, that they stuck at, to betray and ruin the fair credulous part of the creation, whom it is the duty of our sex to protect, invoking punifhment from the immortal gods if they broke their faith, whilst this very horde were often cutting one another's throats on being accused of having told a lye to a *male*.

" *2dly*, I discovered that these pretended men of fafhion and honour, consumed the labour of the industrious citizen, wherever they could inspire confidence and obtain credit, being just only to their own horde in defraying what they call debts of honour, which I found, to my infinite surprise, to be game debts, and tavern scores;—the one probably for fear of being drove out of the only company they have a taste for,—the other for fear of not finding credit again in their favourite haunts. In this, I perceived, they had no more merit than our roving banditti of the desert, who are true to one another from the same motives, although they prey upon all the rest of mankind.

" Except these two virtues, as they called them, and boasted of as proofs of honour, I could learn no other of which they were pofsefsed, and thought myself

particularly unfortunate when chance threw me in their way, as I was sure to find a blank that day in my note book. One of them, for example, would aſk me, with a knowing look, if we had any horse races in our extensive plains, so well calculated for that amusement? a second, if we had no species of dramatic representation, as surely at least the song of the goat and village, the parents of the *sock* and *buskin*, must have already been heard in the wilds of Scythia? a third, twirling in his hand a thief's bludgeon, in lieu of a walking stick, much too ſhort and ugly for either support or ornament, would aſk me, with that sort of archneſs peculiar to this claſs of merry andrews, if none of the accompliſhed disciples of Aspasia, had as yet found their way to our hordes? To this last question I replied with all the simplicity of an *unknowing traveller*, *That we had not as yet been so fortunate;* thinking he meant some of the fellow scholars of Socrates and Pericles, who both studied in that elegant school; but a horse laugh, and certain significant winks and nods, soon discovered to me that it was not the male, but the female disciples of the celebrated courtezan, that these humane gentlemen wiſhed amongst us. In ſhort the same insipid round of wittling questions were repeated by every detachment of this horde I met with, (easily distinguiſhed by their remarkable dreſs,) as if only one and the same soul had animated the whole phalanx, and only three ideas had taken full poſseſsion of it, *viz.* plays, horses, and harlots.

"Happy is the Scythian who lives on koumas*, and the flesh of his steed in the roving desert, in comparison to herding with these two clafses of civilized men. Rather than afsociate with, or learn from such, let me return to my uncultivated desert, and die in the rude ignorance of my fathers."

Here finishes what I have been able to make out of these interesting remarks; and if they do not appear too antiquated, and inapplicable to the present times, it is pofsible, with a good portion of labour and patience, some more of the mutilated manuscript may be decyphered by

Imperial Corps of noble Cadets, St Peterfburgh. } ARCTICUS.

ON REVENUE LAWS. No. IV.

HAVING already fhown how pernicious it is both to the revenue of government, and to the welfare of the nation in general, to lay exorbitant duties on the importation of foreign commodities, we fhall now consider, if any of the evils resulting from the smuggling consequent of such high duties, may be alleviated or removed, although its extinction fhould not be effected.

From my last efsay, it appears, that a very great part of the lofs accruing to government from smuggling, is in consequence of all the goods seized and forfeited, being exposed to public sale, by the revenue officers, and only one half of the proceeds of these goods going into the treasury; as that half is not nearly equivalent to the duty that would be

* A sort of sour curd from mare's milk.

paid on an equal quantity of goods, which would be imported by the fair traders if no such sales were made. The hurting of the fair trader, is, in consequence of these sales, perhaps no lefs important to the community at large, than the lofs sustained by the public revenue. It would then be a great point gained, if the forfeited goods could be abstracted entirely from the markets. Government being sensible of that, attempted to bring it about a few years ago, by ordaining that all the spirits so circumstanced fhould be destroyed; and the same principle is at present, in part, kept in action, by the practice of burning all the condemned tobacco, provided a sum, equal to the duty, one fhilling and threepence *per* pound, is not offered for it at the Custom-house or Excise sales. Both of these practices are evident absurdities; the former was soon found to be so; but the eyes of the legislature are not yet opened with regard to the latter. Tobacco, although not worth one fhilling and threepence *per* pound, would perhaps be worth one fhilling; and if tobacco, worth fifteenpence here, be worth five farthings in Holland, or any other country, such of that article as is worth here one fhilling, will bring there nearly one penny. Why not, therefore, export it, and get that penny, or whatever can be got for it, rather than fumigate whole towns with it, as is frequently done at present*?

* In Leith, we are often for days together, under almost unsufferable torment from the smoke of tobacco, which is burned in a kiln kept for the purpose, in the very centre of the town. A stranger would think it was to fumigate away the plague, or some such malady. How many are there, that would give some hundreds yearly, for leave to carry it to Amsterdam or any where else for sale?

By exposing these goods to sale for exportation, the purchasers being bound to give satisfactory security to that effect, all the evils at present complained of, from the operation of condemned goods on the market, would be fully removed, without, I hope we ſhall find, occasioning any real inconvenience.

The only objections that occur to the adopting of that expedient are the following: *first*, that the goods would produce so little as not to afford sufficient encouragement to the revenue officers, to exert themselves on making seizures; and, *secondly*, that they may be again smuggled in. These objections, I think, are by no means valid.

Geneva, we have seen, produces usually at the revenue sales, about five ſhillings and eightpence *per* gallon; one half of which, two ſhillings and tenpence, goes to the treasury. The duty paid on a gallon of such spirits, is three-fourths of five ſhillings and tenpence, or four ſhillings and fourpence halfpenny; so that government could afford to give the revenue officers the whole of the proceeds of condemned goods, in place of the half, and have a surplus of one ſhilling and sixpence halfpenny; after which, if it were found that the encouragement was still too small, a bounty might be given on seizures. This, however, is mentioned only as a corroborating circumstance, as I am convinced no such thing would be neceſsary. Spirits that sell at five ſhillings and eightpence at our revenue sales, would, I have no doubt, bring, for exportation, about one ſhilling *per* gallon; and if that were *all* given to the

seizing officers. I have many reasons for thinking that their emoluments from seizures, though diminished one shilling and tenpence *per* gallon, would still be sufficiently great to encourage them in the exercise of their duty, in endeavouring to make seizures, and that is enough; for it is by no means desirable, that these persons, to whom the public pay annually such an immense sum in salaries, should still farther enrich themselves at the expence of government, and individuals, who are otherwise too much burdened by them in many respects.

With regard to the goods being smuggled in again, after being exported, the security given by the purchasers would be sufficient to ascertain their being delivered at a foreign port; and after that, they would be entirely in the same predicament with other goods in the place, and there would be no additional incitement to smuggle them.

In the foregoing observations, I have chiefly brought forward, as examples, matters relating to spirits; but the same principles are applicable with equal certainty to tobacco and every other article. For the increase of smuggling is always in proportion greater, than that which the increase of duty bears to the cost of the goods and the risk of seizure. Indeed with regard to the emoluments of the officers, in case of seizures, the magnitude of the duty operates in an inverse manner; but still the ability of government to grant a bounty on seizures without loss to themselves, if found necessary, is increased as the duty increases; and I am not firmly of the opinion that it would not be proper,

where such a duty as at present is payable on tobacco is kept up, being about six times its value. Experience would, however, determine these things.

TRADER POLITICAL.

ON THE COMPARATIVE INFLUENCE OF AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES UPON THE MORALS AND HAPPINESS OF A PEOPLE, AND THE IMPROVEMENT AND STABILITY OF STATES.

Paper second.

Continued from p. 214.

IN the former paper on this subject it has been ſhown, that the prosperity of a country which results chiefly from manufactures, though it extends its influence to agriculture, and *seems* to promote it, in as far as it tends to raise the price of land, and to make the farmer more wealthy *in the mean time*; yet that in *reality* it stops the progreſs of rural improvements, and actually tends to diminiſh the total amount of human sustenance produced in the country.

In this way it must happen, that in a manufacturing country, which can have easy acceſs to other countries for the transportable articles of sustenance, recourse must of neceſsity be had to these countries for those articles, without attempting to make sufficient efforts for producing in its own territories the food that is neceſsary for sustaining its own people.

In this way the support of the people must be rendered not only more expensive, but also much more precarious than it otherwise would have been; and, by consequence, the prosperity thus obtained must be extremely unstable. Nor can either the productivenefs of that country, or its population, be ever carried nearly to that height of which they are naturally susceptible; far lefs can the the felicity of its inhabitants be secured, or the internal tranquillity of the state be maintained for any continuance of time.

The demand for manufactures, especially to foreign parts, must ever be precarious, and liable to great interruptions. Not only may the demand be slackened from a capricious change of taste, or a casual disgust in the people; but it may also at pleasure be affected by the political operations of government; which, by imposing duties, may make a total revulsion in the stream of trade; or by stopping the course of justice, (as was done in America,) may make the recovery of just debts impofsible, and thus occasion innumerable bankruptcies. In all these ways, many thousands of people who were in the practice of living in affluence, may in a few months be laid entirely idle. And all the farmers and mechanics who depended on these manufacturers for their custom, must in like manner be reduced to the greatest distrefs.

Should this, however, be only a *temporary* interruption, the evil, though great, may perhaps be bearable for a time; but if it fhall be *permanent*, what must be the consequence? Either the per-

sons who are thus deprived of their means of subsistence, must, at a great expence, be reprefsed by a military power from committing enormities; and thus be driven to seek fhelter in some other country, where their manufacturing knowledge may perhaps make them welcome guests; or they must prevail against the power of law, and pillage and anarchy must take place.

In case your manufacturers are driven abroad to other countries, your manufactures and your population are both permanently diminifhed, and with them the prosperity, and the wealth of all who remain behind is decreased; and consequently the national resources fall off. But when the resources of a once wealthy court fail, it is impofsible to bring it back to that kind of prudent economy, that might have been practised had it never known excefs. Taxes then become excefsive. The remaining manufactures, under the rigorous execution of revenue laws, languifh for a time, and then expire. The people, in the mean while, seeking for refuge in happier countries, retire in great numbers; and the population diminifhes in a most astonifhing degree. Such has been the fate of Spain, which was once a wealthy, a manufacturing, and a populous country. Its population in a fhort period, has sunk from twenty-five to eight millions of people; its manufactures are ruined; and its agriculture is in the most languid neglect. But such, in a still more conspicuous degree, has been the miserable reverse of fortune that Antwerp has undergone; which three centuries ago experienced a flufh of prosperity arising from

an inordinate succefs in manufactures and in trade, that has no parallel in the history of past times; but which Britain at present is in the train of imitating. May her fate be different! For the prosperity of Antwerp was like the flutterings of a butterfly, gaudy at noon, and brilliant beyond compare in the bright sunſhine of a ſhort day; but when the chilling damps of the evening approached, and the tempests of adversity arose, it sunk at once to death, and was buried in perpetual oblivion.

It is by no means the wiſh of the writer of this efsay to discourage manufactures; nor is there the most distant reason to think he could do it if he would; but he looks forward with a philosophical coolnefs, to the probable iſsue of undertakings, in which men engage at present with the same kind of ardour and hilarity that those who have once experienced the joys of wine feel when they bring the glafs to their lips. To try to persuade these men that they did wrong, would be the height of folly, and which he will not attempt.

Yet, while those jovial unthinking men are allowed to indulge in convivial joys, others may seek a recreation of another kind. They may soberly inquire if there be a poſsibility of augmenting the population of their country to an equal or greater degree, by prosecuting rural occupations? They may examine if both employment and sustenance could be provided at home for this increased population, without being obliged to depend upon the aid of others for their support? and whether, by doing so, they would not provide for the welfare of the people, and the strength

and stablity of the state, much more effectually than by the other plan of conduct?

No one will deny that it is the number of the active and industrious inhabitants of a state, that in all cases form the truest criterion of its resources and strength; and it will be readily admitted that if the same number of men can be supported in the operations of agriculture, and the arts of internal economy depending upon it, as in manufactures, the first will be more uncorrupted in their morals, more regular in their conduct, and more steady in their industrious exertions, than the latter. It follows, then, that the more the agricultural clafs of citizens can be increased, the better it will be for the state; and of course we ought to conclude, that this increase fhould suffer no bounds to be set to it, but that of the pofsible productions of the country.

Nothing can be more certain than that the productions of a country can be augmented by human exertions; and that this increase of produce can, by judicious management, be gradually augmented, in a in a country which admits of being cultivated, almost without any limitation *. If these facts be admitted, it will follow, that by due attention to carry forward improvements in agriculture, the population of a country may be gradually increased to an indefinite degree, and the people still find abundant subsistence from the productions of their own fields,

* These positions it is supposed will not be denied by any one who has made this subject a particular study. Should they be disputed, the writer will endeavour to support them when it fhall seem necefsary.

even where there seemed to be no superabundant produce at the time the population began to increase.

But in this case the exertions to augment the produce of the soil must be uninterrupted. In the meliration of barren soils, it may be admitted as a fundamental axiom, to which there is no exception, that every thing depends upon labour;—"all is the gift of industry." Nor can it be doubted, that, in general, extensive and important meliorations originate in the *actual culture of the soil:* nor can the greatest posſible quantity of human sustenance ever be obtained from the soil, except by means of cultivation, aration, or digging of some sort or other; for it is by means of these operations, alone, that a soil, originally barren, can be brought to be highly productive; or that manures can be made to produce their fullest effect, without waste or an uneconomical profusion in their application*.

From this mode of reasoning, it appears, that every country which is not already brought into the highest poſsible state of productiveneſs, admits of an increased population, beyond the numbers it can at present subsist, without being obliged to have recourse to any other country; but that this increased population can only be supported by augmenting the quantum of actual culture in that country, and increasing the quantity of labour employed on rural

* The writer fears that the full force of his reasoning here will not be understood by all his readers; but it would be no difficult matter to prove these positions were this a proper place for it. Perhaps this may form a separate diſsertation in this Miscellany at some future period, if such diſcuſsions ſhall appear to be agreeable to the readers.

operations;—in other words, by increasing the number of husbandmen*.

The natural inference from these premises, is, that in a country where the inhabitants are not allured from the labours of agriculture, by a prospect of engaging in more lucrative employments, the population and the fertility of that country may go on, increasing together, for an indefinite number of ages without interruption, till both of these shall at length attain a height to which no person can pretend to set bounds. It is, therefore, possible to preserve a state purely agricultural for ages, in which all the inhabitants shall find constant food and employment, without being obliged to have recourse to foreign aid, either for the one or the other.

And if our reasoning in the former part of this essay has been well founded, it will follow, that such a state will enjoy a prosperity more certain and more permanent, and its inhabitants experience a greater degree of tranquillity and happiness, than if they were employed chiefly in manufactures. In the one case, its prosperity would be moderate and uninterruptedly progressive, but secure, and liable to few interruptions. In the other case, its progress would be at times rapid;—it would not seem to run, but to fly; but, at other times, it would not only stop, but be retrograde.

By a state purely agricultural, I must be understood to mean a state in which the inhabitants are

* The state of ancient Palestine, is a practical illustration of this subject.

wholly, or chiefly employed, in the concerns of domestic economy; and in the providing of food, tools, cloathing, &c. for the comfortable subsistence of one another. Of course, manufactures, and all that division of labour which is necefsary for carrying on either agriculture, or other arts with economy, may, and indeed must there prevail, before the state can attain its utmost degree of perfection. Manufactures, when thus carried on for domestic accommodation, necefsarily promote agriculture; and the demand for these, by being steady, never produces those dangerous fluctuations to which manufactures, for foreign consumption, are so remarkably subjected. Trade, likewise, in as far as it tends to facilitate the interchange of commodities within the state, will here be a necefsary afsistant; but foreign trade, and the manufacture of goods for the accommodation of other nations, seems to be in no degree necefsary to the well being of the state; but is evidently calculated to disturb that political tranquillity on which the happinefs of the people, the stability of the state, and its progrefsive improvement, so materially depend*.

On these principles, it would seem, that the Chinese system of government has been founded on wisdom; as, by adhering to the domestic and agricultural systems, that country has continued for a series of ages, now innumerable, in an uninterrupted progrefs of improvement; till the productivenefs of

* For the effects of foreign trade, compared with domestic traffic, see the sensible remarks of Dr Smith in his efsay on the Wealth of Nations.

its territory, and the extent of its population have increased to a degree, of which we in Europe can have no adequate conception. During the continuance of its progrefs, the mighty empires of the Afsyrians, Medes, Persians, Babylonians, Greeks, Carthagenians, and Romans, have been succefsively swallowed up by each other; not to mention those swarms of ephemera states that have sprung from the ruins of the last, and fluttered a few hours in a transient day, and then been swept from off the stage, without leaving almost the memory of them behind. While these mighty states have succefsively sprung up and disappeared, this singular nation alone has continued to augment in vigour and in strength. We, it is true, condemn its policy as unwise; but if wisdom consists in warding off calamities, and promoting the happinefs of the human race, with what injustice can we brand them with that opprobrious epithet? Had all the nations above mentioned, which we dignify with the epithets of enlightened and heroic people,—had they all, I say, adhered to a similar policy to that of the Chinese, what wars, devastations, mafsacres, and bloodfhed, would have been prevented? how many myriads of widows, whose hearts have been torn with anguifh, might have enjoyed life with tranquillity, and resigned their souls in peace? how many orphans that have been exposed to the miseries that unprotected youth is liable to, would have been bred up to industry and happinefs? what an infinite number of barbarous atrocities, at the bare recital of which the heart fhrinks into itself with horror,

would have been prevented? and, at this moment, how many myriads of people would have been enjoying the blefsings of life on this globe, compared to the few insignificant creatures that are thinly scattered on its surface; and who seem to have no other object than that of tormenting and of maſsacring each other? Were a superior being to look down upon this globe, would HE bestow the epithet of *unwise* upon that nation, which, attentive to the preservation of its own people, was continually occupied in preserving their internal tranquillity; and which had cautiously ſhut its doors against the introduction of those evils which had made a desert of all the rest of the world? If his eye glanced upon the late fertile and peaceable province of Bengal, would he not say, that opening her gates, so as to admit these ravenous strangers, would be like as if the mariners who were forced to winter on Greenland, had opened their doors to admit the bears when they prowled around for prey? Yet it is these people we brand with the epithet unwise. Never, do I think, was a word so improperly applied.

I wiſh not to make an indiscriminating eulogium on that nation, like those, which, for the purpose of satirizing others, have so often been bestowed upon it by fanciful writers; but when facts thus come to corroborate reasoning, it would be absurd not to take notice of them. The incomparable permanency of China; its progreſsive improvement during so many ages; the immense degree of fertility it has thus attained; and the innumerable swarms of people it supports; are clear and

undeniable evidences of the vast superiority of the agricultural system of employment, over the commercial and manufacturing system, which is so much the idol of worſhip by the people in Europe; and which neceſsarily leads to foreign wars and devastations, internal tumults and disorders. Maſsacres, conquests, revolutions, without end, are the accompanyments of the one, while unabating peace, tranquillity, and happineſs, are the result of the other.

ANECDOTE.

AN astrologer in the time of Lewis XI extricated himself very ingeniously from danger. He had foretold to the king, that a lady whom he loved ſhould die in eight days: which having happened, the prince caused the astrologer to be brought before him, and commanded his servants not to fail to throw him out at the window, at a signal which he would give them. As soon as the king saw him: "You who pretend to be such a wise man," says he to him, "and who knows so exactly the fate of others, tell me this moment, what will be yours, and how long you have yet to live?" Whether it was that the astrologer had been secretly informed of the design of the king, or that he gueſsed it: 'Sire,' answered he, without testifying any fear, 'I ſhall die just three days before your majesty.' The king, after that answer, was not in haste to give the signal for them to throw him out of the window;—on the contrary he took particular care to let him want for nothing.

POETRY.

LIFE.

From the MSS collection quoted in our last.

MAN, with the morn, begins his destin'd race,
Joy in his eye, and pleasure in his face;
But oh! what rubs attend his setting days!
His sinews slacken, and his strength decays;
His limbs sore ach with hourly toil opprest,
Till wish'd-for night restore him peaceful rest.
Thus man for ever labours and decays,
Counting but few, and those uneasy days.
He scarce a minute glories in his bloom,
So harsh is death's inexorable doom,
So nigh, alas! the cradle and the tomb.

AN EPITAPH

ON THE LATE REVEREND DR THOMAS SHERIDAN.

From the same.

BENEATH this marble stone there lies
Poor Tom, more merry much than wise;
Who only liv'd for two great ends,
To spend his cash, and lose his friends.
His darling wife of him bereft,
Is only griev'd,—there's nothing left.

THE BOUQUET.

A LESSON FOR THE LADIES.

THE sun arose, the morn was gay,
The lark had tun'd his matin lay;
And Flora deck'd the op'ning flow'r,
In beauteous hue, of Eden's bow'r.
When bending o'er the painted beds,
Where thousands rais'd their vermil heads,
The lovely Myra, charming fair,
Pluck'd off the best in each parterre.

" Go, sweetest buds! the prattler cried,
" Drest in the robe of variant dye;
" Grace Colin's breast with nature's pride,
" Feast the pleas'd sense, and charm his eye.

" Spread to his sight your richest bloom,
" Ope all your beauties full to view;
" Go waft Arabia's rich perfume,
" In od'rous scent and variant hue.

"A present from thy Myra's hand,
"Shall live in smiles that never die;
"The flow'ret bound by Friendship's hand,
"Shall drink the dew of Colin's eye."

But ah! transported from their beds,
The lilies droop their snowy heads;
The rose's crimson instant fades,
And all that pleas'd so bright, so gay,
Like beauty 'mid deserted glades,
In one short moment meets decay.

No more the bud, in vernal green,
Flings softness on the roseate scene;
No more its blossom to the eye,
Presents the tufts of ruby dye;
No more the lily's rich perfume,
With odour fills the vaulted room;
A deadly pale succeeds the white,
Nor rose, nor lily, gives delight.
Ye fair, attend the moral strain!
Nor let these flow'rets preach in vain.
Nor eloquence by taste refin'd,
Can thus instruct th' ingenuous mind;
Nor all the sons of wit and art,
Read better lectures to the heart.
Fair as the lily's virgin face,
Pure emblem of unspotted grace,
Where not a sombre tint is seen,
No, not amid the em'rald green.
Bright as the rose, whose morning flush,
Faint emulates a modest blush;
Where rising glory speaks a day
Of still increasing richer ray:
Such is the dawn of every fair,
When op'ning first on life's parterre;
While sainted honour watching round,
Secures the yet unsullied ground;
Whilst anxious angels vigils keep,
Nor suffer Virtue once to sleep;
While friendly sprites without repose,
Now guard the lily, now the rose.
But should their charge, unhappy, rove
Amid the wilds of lawless love;
Or if for Vice's gilded maze,
They leave fair Virtue's peaceful ways,
Or lur'd away by syren song,
Break from the right, and choose the wrong;
Their lilies fade, their roses die,
No more they charm th' observer's eye;
And ev'ry friend to Virtue's sway,
Seraph and man shall mourn the day.

On the climate of Russia in the Neighbourhood of St Petersburgh.

My very ingenious and obliging correspondent, Arcticus, in answer to the queries [Bee, vol. ix. p. 157. note,] respecting the trees in Rufsia around St Peterfburgh, has favoured me with the following interesting memorandums on that subject, along with many other particulars respecting that country; and, in particular, an exact list of all the birds, migratory and stationary, that are found in that country, which will appear in due time in this Miscellany.

"The trees and birds, (says he,) when accurately given, especially those which are natives, or stand the climate the whole year round in open air, is no bad mode of judging and comparing climates. In that persuasion, I fhall here answer your queries made at the bottom of my letter on planting, which I suspect are suggested by the same idea.

"1*st*, *Fraxinus*, the afh, I never saw in the woods here; although Pallas thinks the few afh trees he has in his garden were probably found in the woods, but never saw the tree there himself: it may therefore be regarded as an exotic. It would make a curious scale of comparative perfection, to trace the afh from a country where it is an exotic, and only found in gardens, to a climate where it affords manna.

"2*d*, *Ulmus*, or elm. This tree, like the afh, is only found in gardens.

"3*d*, *Fagus*, or beech, is a hothouse plant in this country, and only seen in tubs at the imperial sala and gardens of Sarcocello.

" *4th*, The hawthorn is exactly in the same predicament here, although so common in fields in Scotland.

" These facts point out a great difference between your climate and ours, and fhow the superior advantages of Scotland with regard to planting."

They certainly do so: and in regard to making plantations, *artificially*, the advantage in favour of Scotland is still much greater than would appear at first view; for though the trees above named, and many others which thrive here, may be too tender to bear the rigours of the climate; yet there are still a sufficient variety of trees which resist the greatest Rufsian cold, for answering all the useful purposes of life; which, so long as the country is thinly peopled, and domestic animals few, spring up in abundance from seeds scattered by the hand of nature. But fhould these woods ever come to be extirpated, by the progrefs of improvement, and the multiplication of men and cattle, as in Britain, it would be then a matter of great difficulty, indeed, to make artificial plantations, compared to what we here experience. For in Rufsia, from the moment the trees fhed their leaves, before which time few of them can be transplanted with safety, till they are in full bud, if not in leaf, which is past the proper season for transplanting, the earth is bound up in frost, and inaccefsible, by reason of a thick bed of snow; so that the time which can be appropriated to the operation of planting must be wonderfully curtailed, in comparison of what it is here, where we have usually three months without frost in which that operation can be safely performed.

This circumstance must preclude the establifhment of nurseries for young trees there, which of course must augment the difficulty. Hence, there is reason to fear, that, in time, wood in the neighbourhood of great towns, if ever the country fhould become tolerably peopled, will

become exceedingly scarce, nor will that want be easily remedied. And it may be expected to prove scarcest in those very places where it most abounds; as has happened with ourselves; because in those places no care will be taken to preserve the woods, till they be totally exterminated. This we know is actually the case in Scotland; for those places which were some hundreds of years ago entirely covered with impenetrable woods, are now so destitute of timber that not a tree can be seen; whereas in other places, little groves of trees are scattered about every where. This defect, in Aberdeenſhire especially, we are now rapidly correcting; and in half a century that will be once more a finely wooded country. But in Rufsia such a want could be with much greater difficulty supplied; and therefore the greater care ſhould now be taken to obviate it.

Were we, however, to form our judgement of the climate of Rufsia from its herbaceous plants, and small ſhrubs, instead of its trees, when compared with our own, we ſhould draw a very different conclusion; for we ſhould there probably find many small ſhrubs, and herbaceous plants, that stood the winter perfectly well in the open ground, which require artificial protection in this country; for the snow which falls there in the beginning of winter, covers the whole surface of the ground, to such a depth as to ſhelter them almost entirely from the effects of frost; to which they are often here exposed, quite bare, for several months together. Where the snow is of a sufficient depth, indeed, the frost can have little impreſsion on the soil, or the roots of the plants which are in it; and in the spring it is often found, that plants, influenced by the heat of the sun penetrating the snow throughout the day, and protected from the frosts in the evening, have begun to spring long before the snow be melted, so as to appear

in full verdure and often in flower, and sometimes in seed before the protecting covering be removed; nor are they in danger of being checked by frost after the snow is melted; whereas, with us, plants that are hardy, before they begin to fhoot out, are often cut off by spring frosts, after they have set forth their tender fhoots. It would, therefore, be an interesting thing to have an exact list of herbaceous plants, as well as trees, which could bear the open air near Petersburgh in Rufsia, to be compared with those of Britain. It is probable, we fhould find that many of our hardy *trees* are greenhouse plants there; and that many of their hardy *plants* require the fhelter of the greenhouse, if not occasional resource of artificial heat, with us.

CALLA ETHIOPICA.

THERE is just now [Dec. 7th,] in flower, in the botanical garden here, in the open air, a fine plant of the *calla Ethiopica;* a plant that has been hitherto considered as requiring the heat of a stove in this country. This is one instance, among several others, that have occurred of the impropriety of judging, *a priori*, of the tendernefs of plants, from the nature of the climate of which they are natives. For though a plant may be able to bear the heat of a warm climate, and may have been originally found in a tropical region, it may, neverthelefs, be also capable of resisting the cold of more polar regions. The sweet scented pea, for example, is a native of the island of Ceylon, from whence it was first introduced into Europe; yet it is well known to be the hardiest annual pea we have; and is the only plant of that description, which, if sown at a proper time, can resist our winter's cold so as not to be killed by it; and the Portugal laurel is our hardiest evergreen.

The calla Ethiopica has been kept in our stoves in Britain, for perhaps half a century past; nor does it seem

that any person before the present time] had ever thought of trying if it could live in the open air. The plant in question was put out three years ago, to take its chance; as they had increased to a greater number than was wanted; and has not suffered in the smallest degree since that time, though last winter, in particular, was more severe than is usual in this climate; and many plants that commonly bear our cold were killed.

From this example I would recommend it to many gentlemen who have large collections of exotic plants; those especially of the herbaceous sorts, that can be employed in arts, or for other useful purposes, to try a few of each kind, from time to time, in the open air. It may happen, that much benefit may result from these trials, even where the plants are so tender as to require a slight artificial covering. The common artichoke is a plant of this sort; for, without some protection, it is often killed by our winter's frost; though it is one of the most common esculent plants we have. It is remarkable that though we have already had several nights of frost, so keen as to kill down the leaves of many plants that are very hardy with us, yet the calla Ethiopica is at present in full verdure; and its fine flower as fresh in the open ground as in the hothouse.

ON THE TASTE FOR GARDENING AMONG THE TURKS.

ABUNDANCE of running water is reckoned the most essential requisite for a garden among the Turks; and as ground is generally to be had at a small price, their gardens are often of great extent; but in these a wild irregularity is more in fashion than symmetry and elegance. They know not what we mean by lawns, bowling greens, and that taste for dressed grounds of great extent which we in Europe have borrowed from the Chinese. *Kiosks*,

adorned with rich sophas; vast basons, and jets of water playing in them, which they call *schaderwan*; ſhady alleys, paved with various coloured flints, disposed into figures of Mosaick work, form the most superb ornaments, and the most coveted conveniences of a Turkiſh garden.

The people are fond of fruit, and paſsionate admirers of flowers; their gardeners, therefore, who are chiefly from the Grecian Archipelago, bend their chief attention to the culture of these two articles. With the rearing, grafting, and training fruit trees, they are well acqainted; and are dexterous at preserving fruits in perfection, for as long a time as poſsible. Their flowers are disposed in parterres, where they are planted promiscuously, and without order. A Dutch gardener would condemn this taste as barbarous. Rouſseau would have said this must be the most perfect taste, because it most resembles the operation of nature.

So fond are the ladies, in general, of flowers, that they have them in their chambers even almost the whole of the year. They have small round tables made of fine woods inlaid with mother of pearl, appropriated solely to the reception of flowers in pots. These are often made of porcelain, and the finest kinds of pottery, and form a kind of parterre within doors, consisting of roses, oranges, citrons, tulips, anemonies, tuberoses, jeſsmines, carnations, and a variety of other ſhrubs and flowers, the arranging of which and tending them, forms one of the principal amusements of the ladies in their harams.

They make presents of flowers and fruits to their parents, friends, and favourites; which are accepted as a high mark of favour. The grand vizir even is obliged, at stated times, to send presents of this nature to the sul-

tan, and the ladies of the imperial haram, as marks, on his part, of homage, submission, and respect. Every Wednesday the aga of the janissaries, and on certain occasions the grand treasurers, are equally obliged to comply with this etiquette towards the sovereign and his first minister. An ancient usage requires the grand vizir to adhere to the same, with respect to the ministers of foreign powers on their first arrival; and on the day of their first public audience the grand master of ceremonies takes care that these marks of respect be not omitted, to which the public opinion has affixed a considerable value. Hence the establishment of two officers, known under the names of *yemischdjy baschy*, and *tschitschexdy baschy* one of whom has the superintendance of fruits, and the other of flowers. The first furnishes annually the fruits necessary to the table of the sultan and the ladies of his haram. He always takes care to preserve the rarest kinds in proper conservatories, that he may be able at all times to gratify the fancies of the favourite sultanas during their pregnancy. It is him who provides all the presents of this sort to the first minister and the grandees of the empire. The intendant who performs the same office with regard to flowers, has the charge of furnishing what is necessary for the apartments of the seraglio.

Among flowers, the tulip, here, as in many other places, holds a very distinguished rank. The peculiar taste for this flower among the Turks, is said to have been introduced by the famous *Ibrahim Pacha*, grand visir and son-in-law to *Achmet* III. in the following manner: *Ibrahim* had, by some unknown means, collected a vast number of roots of the finest flowers of this sort, which he reared with singular care in the garden of his country seat, situated on the borders of the Bosphorus beyond *Baschixtasch*. When they were in their highest degree of per-

fection, he gave an entertainment to the sultan, his master, which having prolonged till the evening, he then caused his parterre to be illuminated by several thousand small chrystal lamps, disposed with art, so as to produce the most striking effect; when leading the sultan unexpectedly thither, Achmet was so inchanted with the brilliancy of this superb exhibition, that he could scarcely be satisfied with admiring it, and demanded a repetition of it several times from *Ibrahim;* and ordered, farther, that the same ſhould be renewed every year at the seraglio, at the season of these flowers. This entertainment of a new kind, was commemorated under the name of *Lale Tochiraghani*, which means the illumination of tulips; and the country house of *Ibrahim*, is since known by the name of *Tochiraghann Yaliſsy. Mahomet* I. took also great pleasure in this divertiſsement during his whole reign; but the princes his succeſsors, not having had the same taste, this brilliant *fete* has been since suffered to fall into neglect; to the regret of the whole seraglio.

Next to flowers, the Mahometans are singularly fond of plantations of large growing trees; the freſhneſs which their ſhade affords in a burning climate, being grateful in a high degree. The trees in chief repute among them are the oak, the lime, the platanus, the elm, the fir, the chesnut, the walnut, and the palm; but above all the cypreſs, which is specially consecrated to burying grounds. These people, in consequence of their superstitious opinions, have a sort of respect for all kinds of trees. Several among them believe that they would expose themselves to some disastrous accident, ſhould they cut down, root out, or burn any one of them without neceſsity. This sentiment has a force with them, in proportion to the fecundity of the tree, its beauty, or its age; but nothing can overcome the veneration they bear for those trees, which sur-

round a tomb, and protect it with their ſhade. If the doctrine of the unity of the Deity were not the fundamental doctrine of the muſsulmans, one would believe that they inherited the mythological system of the ancients, which filled the woods and forests with divinities. In a word, to cut down, or mutilate a tree, especially in a burying ground, is, in their eyes, to sin against nature, and to insult the manes of those who repose under its ſhade. These superstitious ideas, which are very general do not, however, prevent the soldiers from exercising their barbarous fury even upon the very trees they meet within an enemy's country. The more respect they bear for these things, the more regret they think their enemies will experience for the loſs of them; and this is a suffcient reason for exciting their fury. Such are the diabolical ideas that war excites among the children of men! Who then can execrate this mischievous system too much?

Regulations of the Spaniards for the gradual enfranchisement of slaves, and their better treatment.

As soon as a slave is landed, his name, price, *&c.* are registered in a public register, and the master is obliged by law to allow him one working day in the course of the week to himself, besides Sunday; so that if he chooses to work for his master on that day, he receives for the same the wages of a free man; as whatever he earns by such labour, is so secured to him by law, that the master cannot deprive him of it. This is certainly a step towards aboliſhing absolute slavery; for as soon as the slave is able to purchase another working day, the master is obliged to sell it him at one-fifth part of its original cost, and so, likewise, the remaining four days, at the same rate, whenever the slave is able to redeem them; after which he is en-

tirely free. This is such an incentive to industry, that even the most supine are tempted to exert themselves.

THE EXTENT OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S TERRITORY.

It is observed by major Rennell, in his memoirs of India, as a new phenomenon in the history of the world, that a company of merchants, subjects of a kingdom, ſhould poſseſs in full sovereignty 162,000 square miles of land, containing 11,000,000 inhabitants, *i. e.* 30,000 square miles and 3,000,000 inhabitants more than is poſseſsed by their own sovereign in Great Britain and Ireland: that their groſs revenue ſhould amount to L.4,600,000 sterling, besides subsidies from country powers: that their military eſtabliſhment, in time of peace, is 10,000 Europeans, and 52,000 regular sepoy infantry: that, in their mercantile capacity, they employ 100 large ſhips, with upwards of 10,000 seamen, in which they import, annually, from five to six millions sterling, of merchandise, into Great Britain. Such is the magnitude of the Britiſh East India Company, unknown in any former period of the world.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor fears, that, by an accidental circumstance, the very sensible communication by *Nerva* has been too long omitted to be noticed. He hopes the ingenious author will forgive this unintentional omiſsion.

He has likewise to request pardon of *Eusebius* for a similar omiſsion. His eſsay was duly received, and hopes he will hear more of it in a ſhort time; but its having been marked as already noticed, made the Editor think it had been done. Mistakes of this kind are solely occasioned by a part of the notices to correspondents not being admitted in one number for want of room, and the copy of that part being forgot, or its having fallen aside when the following number was printed.

The communication by *A Reformer* is received; and though it is the wiſh of the Editor to keep clear of political discuſsions at present, which are too apt to degenerate into party squabbles, that would be a disgrace to a literary journal; yet as the writer is so importunate, and as the composition seems to be a harmleſs *jeu d'esprit*, he will try if he can indulge him;—but it is too long.

Acknowledgements to several others deferred.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19. 1792.

CUCURBITA OCHCKOFENSIS,

OR TURBAN GOURD,

With a plate.

AMONG many other curious articles lately transmitted to the Editor from Rufsia by his obliging correspondent Arcticus, is a very fine coloured drawing of the singular production called *cucurbita ochckofensis*, or turban gourd, made by the draughtsman of Dr Pallas, an exact representation of two varieties of which are engraved A and B of the miscellaneous plate that accompanies this number. A is so exact a representation of a turban, or tiara of some sort, that on seeing the drawing, before reading the description, I concluded it must be a representation of a kind of head drefs worn by some of the natives of these eastern countries. The colours of the plant tend greatly to favour this deception. The under part is a rich golden orange, which resembles a strong kind of cloth, calculated to go round the head like a fillet, while the crown is a white, with a few light streaks of green and orange. The little bandage at the bottom of the crown, is of a

pale greenish tint, slightly waved, and in some measure open, as in the drawing, so as naturally to represent a kind of lace binding the base of the higher crown of the tiara.

My correspondent justly observes, that "this kind of gourd is particularly worthy of the attention and cultivation of the curious; not only from their beauty, but the extraordinary circumstance of their exact similitude to the form of the Mahometan turban,—a resemblance which is so striking, as to convince, at first sight, that the head drefs of that religion must have been taken from this production of their fields. When they are ripe, they are, like the drawings, of a fine rich gold yellow, or orange, striped beautifully with green on the crown, as regularly as if painted; and I think it is scarcely hazarding too much to suppose, that, as their first colour is *green*, Mahomet may have taken both the form and colour of his own and descendants turbans from this natural and first of models, which pofsibly served the original wild inhabitants of these countries as a defence against the sun, till they were able to invent some sort of stuff to replace the vegetable bonnet, that still gives form to their head drefs. I made the experiment last year, to satisfy curiosity, as to the kind of bonnet one of these gourds would make; and having scooped out and dried, A, with only such an opening at bottom as would admit the head, found it a very light and handsome turban, which deceived every body at a small distance. However, Mr Editor, to enable you

and your friends to try the Turkiſh bonnet in any way you please, I ſhall send some of the seeds early in the spring to sow in Scotland, although at present they cannot be had till the gourd is gradually dried to make the seeds more surely productive."

I ſhall expect the seeds of this beautiful plant with impatience, which I ſhall take pleasure to distribute among such friends and subscribers as are curious in vegetable productions.

FARTHER DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

Horns of the arnee.

Fig. C represents an accurate front view of the horns of the young *arnee*, or great Indian buffalo mentioned in page 193 of this volume, drawn on a scale so large, as to give a clear idea of the peculiarities that distinguiſh that horn from all others. D is a back view of the same, and F a section of the horn near its base; the flat side being the front of the horn, and the ridge running along the outside, as represented in the figure. A more minute description is unnecefsary.

The animal to which these horns belonged, seems to have been only about two years old when it was killed; the horns are consequently thicker towards the root, in proportion to their other dimensions, than in older animals of the same kind; nor are they near so much bent inwards, as in the older animal represented page 193.

The bone of the head is exactly two feet long, and the distance between the top of the horns 35 inches;

the other proportions are exactly observed; so that the dimensions of every other part may be obtained.

Cone of the Norfolk island pine.

G represents a kind of cone brought from Norfolk island in the South Seas. The tree that produces this fruit, is there called a *pine*, and grows to a great height and magnitude; but the wood of the tree is so brittle as to be of no use in ſhip building. Its other properties are not yet ascertained.

I have not been able to obtain any botanical description of this tree; but if we are to judge from the cone, it must constitute a new genus of plants, hitherto unknown to European botanists. The cone, from which this figure was drawn, measured nearly seven inches in length. It has been called a cone; but it resembles no other cone yet known, in any other respect except the ſhape alone. It has no scales; but the substance in which the seeds are irregularly bedded, is a set of wiry-like small woody fibres, firm and elastic, slightly curled, and resembling in appearance a ſhort cut close baſs matt, for cleaning the feet, made of bent graſs. The bulk of the fibres are of a dark brown, nearly black, and curled, with a few interspersed through them, of a clearer brown, tending to red. These are not curled, and stronger than the others. The cone is placed here in what I conceive to have been its natural position, and has adhered to the tree by a strong tough woody stalk seen at top; but near the bottom part of that stalk, at a small distance from it, all round the top of the cone,

are the remains of a number of smaller fibres, about the size of the largest kind of packthread, which have all been cut off too ſhort to be seen in the drawing. The pile of the maſs of fibres with which the body of the cone is covered, all point upward; at least towards the stalk, directly the reverse of what happens with the scales of the cones of other trees. The seeds are stuck in among these fibres, quite irregularly, as in the figure; and are nearly of the size of an ordinary chesnut, but nearer the ſhape of a hazel nut. They are covered with a strong hard ſhell, which at the point is exactly of the colour and texture of a hazel nut; but lower down they are covered with a ſhort close velvety downy coat. These nuts adhere quite firmly to a nucleus, which forms the body of the cone, being a hard, bony, or ſhell-like substance, so hard that no knife can make any impreſsion upon it. A little of the point of this nucleus appears at the point below, slightly dotted where some of the pile has been taken off. Not having more than one, I could not break this up to see what is in the center. This solid nucleus seems to be about an inch and a half diameter. The whole weight of the cone is ten ounces and a half. The number of seeds in this cone are seventeen. It is probable the natives may use them for food.

From these particulars it will clearly appear, that this cone is of a kind that is totally different from those of the trees we have in Europe. It has been thus minutely described to satisfy the desires of the curious.

For the Bee.

THE MOUNTAIN AND GROTTOES,

A VISION.

Sunt hic etiam sua præmia laudi. VIRG.

BEING in a contemplative mood the other day, I took a solitary walk towards the Pentland Hills; and reflecting on the many vices and follies of mankind, and the consequent miseries attached to human life, I could not help being equally struck with astonishment and pity, that the condition of life, which, of all others, ought to be the most happy, was, in general, now a-days, the most wretched.

While I was sunk in a profound reverie on this subject, I reached the foot of the mountains; and clambering to the top of a little eminence, I lay down to repose myself, and to enjoy the prospect around; but, being somewhat fatigued, fell insensibly asleep.

Methought I was then standing at the foot of a lofty mountain, the sides of which were diversified with numberlefs precipices and caverns; and so perplexed with thickets and brufhwood, that it seemed almost impofsible to ascend it. Neverthelefs as the objects around were various and magnificent, I felt a vast desire to enjoy them in their full splendor by ascending to the top. But before I had advanced far, I found, that, in addition to the obstructions already mentioned, there were an infinite number of serpents that hifsed among the verdure;

and I could perceive among the higher precipices, vast flocks of vultures, harpies, and other birds of prey, immensely larger than any I had ever seen, that darkened the air with their flight, or were perched upon the highest pinnacles ; and by the wildneſs of their screams, and the dreadful clapping of their wings, seemed to threaten the traveller with instant destruction.

What added to my terror, was, that upon a longer inspection, I observed numbers of these frightful birds darting on the ground, and rising again with redoubled clamour.

In ſhort I had determined to return, when, at a small distance, I beheld a female figure approaching towards me ; ſhe was arrayed in garments more resplendent than a summer's morn; her right hand bore a ſhining sceptre ; and in her gesture and countenance, there was something wonderfully elevated and sublime, tempered, at the same time, with so much sweetneſs, that though I was struck with awe, as ſhe drew nearer, I felt, nevertheleſs, inexpreſsible emotions of pleasure and of joy.

While I stood intranced in admiration, the celestial stranger thus addreſsed me : " Happy mortal ! in me behold the genius of Wisdom. I am sent for your instruction, and thrice happy will you be if you listen to my precepts. The mountain on which you now stand, is human life ; and these precipices, caverns, and thickets, are the various misfortunes and dangers to which it is subjected ; as the serpents and birds of prey, which strike you with such terror, are the destructive Paſsions that so much infest this

state of existence. Were I to open your eyes fully, you would be afflicted with the deepest sorrow, at beholding such havock and carnage as all these daily make among mankind; but if you will be conducted by me, I will lead you through lefs terrifying scenes, to a delightful region, little inferior to the happy abodes of the blefsed."

I had scarce time to exprefs my gratitude to my heavenly benefactrefs, when fhe took me gently by the hand, and led me up the mountain. At her approach, I observed that the reptiles and birds of prey fhrunk away, though, at a distance, they continued to manifest their ravenous desires. The precipices, dens, and thickets disappeared; and I felt within me a secret rapture, when suddenly my ear was struck with the most melodious notes.

Having directed my eye towards the place whence these delightful sounds proceeded, I beheld several beautiful females at a little distance, who beckoned me to approach.

It is impofsible to describe the wonderful effects wrought in me by the charms of these lovely creatures. Never, indeed, did I see any thing half so alluring, and I was just on the point of rufhing towards them, when, turning to the genius, I beheld, with amazement, her countenance afsume a severity that struck me like lightening

"These females, (said fhe,) whom you so much admire, are the Sensual Pleasures, and the Criminal Luxuries of life, which produce infinitely more destruction among mankind, than the birds of prey from which I have freed you. They are surround-

ed with concealed moraſses and covered thorns; and whoever approaches towards them, is soon entangled, and his ruin inevitable."

Here ſhe paused, and desired me to consider them again. I did so, and found, with still greater amazement, that they had put on the most hideous forms; and I could perceive, that every glance ſhe threw upon them, seemed to ſhrink up their very eſsence, and to render them still more disgusting and horrible.

We had now reached the middle of the mountain, when the spirit of Wisdom, turning towards me, spoke in the following manner:

"You are now arrived at the end of the first stage of human life. The path to the top of the mountain is infested with creatures, as well as with obstructions and dangers, much the same as those you have already seen; but in proportion as you descend on the opposite side, the birds of prey gradually disappear, and the dens and caverns increase, till you reach the bottom, which is one continued gulph, covered with such an impenetrable vapour, that it is altogether impaſsable even by myself. We ſhall not, therefore, ascend any farther; especially as by the sceptre which I hold in my right hand, I am empowered to perform things out of my own sphere, and ſhall now make use of it, to disclose another scene for your improvement and instruction."

She now waved her wand; I looked around, and to my utter astoniſhment, found that I was in the

midst of an extensive plain, covered by various nations of all ages and sexes.

When my admiration had a little subsided, I perceived a large grotto with a spacious entry right before me. Numbers that ifsued from the great body in the middle of the plain, were continually crowding into it, while many others were hurrying out of it; with this difference, however, that those who proceeded towards it, ran into pairs of male and female, at the entrance, and were to all appearance intoxicated with joy. Whereas they who came out were always single, and were either deprefsed with sorrow, or wound up to the most extravagant pitch of gladnefs and exultation.

"This, said my divine conductrefs, is the grotto of Matrimony; observe it with attention." As I contemplated it, I found its general appearance and form infinitely alluring. Its entrance was overfhadowed with trees full of the most beautiful blofsoms, that seemed to promise an abundance of pleasing fruit. A number of flowers of the most brilliant colours sprung up around. The air was scented with their balmy perfume. Upon a closer examination I observed among these a good many annual, some biennial, and a very few triennial blofoms; but hardly any of a longer duration.

All these, however, had such a fine effect, that I fhould have been tempted to importune the genius to conduct me thither, had I not observed that most of those who advanced to this grotto, were very irregular and tumultuous in their motions,

Even the female part, who tripped to the sound of musical instruments, and whose drefs and gestures were altogether wanton and lascivious, had neverthelefs a certain wildnefs and distraction in their countenance, that produced in me much distaste and aversion.

What struck me, however, with most astonifhment, and contributed chiefly to deter me from approaching the grotto, was, that I plainly perceived those who came out, had undergone a wonderful change. Instead of the airy flutter and the wanton glance, many of them seemed overwhelmed with sorrow; and their looks in general were so haggard and terrifying, that wherever they directed their steps, every one fled with precipitation.

Upon a nearer examination, I now observed, that all over the plain there were a vast number of concealed pits or trap doors; and those who chanced to stumble upon any of them instantly disappeared. I perceived a great many of both sexes plunging at the very entrance of the grotto, while they were adorning their heads with garlands of flowers, and indulging in the utmost festivity.

This sight could not fail to deter me from approaching the grotto, and I accordingly advanced with considerable reluctance; but the genius encouraged me, and I proceeded.

We now drew pretty near the grotto; and I perceived that some of the flowers, that there abounded in the greatest profusion, were wonderfully beautiful, and I wifhed to gather them; but my conductrefs told me they contained a slow poison; and in-

deed I did observe, that almost every one gathered more or lefs of them, and that those who supplied themselves most plentifully, seemed to turn giddy, and were guilty of very ridiculous actions.

On a still nearer approach, there was about the entrance of the grotto, something very pleasing, and something too that produced in me a kind of dread to enter it; and it was, therefore, with no small astonifhment that I observed almost all the infinite multitude that flocked towards it, not only in a state of indifference, but to appearance intoxicated with joy. Instead of examining its precincts, or making such preparations, and using such precautions as might be necefsary to render the journey agreeable, the motley crowd seemed attentive only to the sound of music, which, in truth, was very pleasing, and to which they tripped away in their gayest attire.

Upon a narrower inspection, however, I did perceive a few solitary pairs, that seemed extremely busy in examining the entrance of the grotto, and in culling various flowers that did not appear to me to be conspicuous for beauty; and I observed that they prefsed their juice into phials, with which they occasionally bathed their foreheads.

Wondering what could be the meaning of this, I applied to the tutelar genius. "These flowers, (said fhe,) though they do not seem so pretty as the rest, have a much more fragrant smell; and their juice, applied in the manner you see, is the best pofsible antidote against all the dangers that are to be met with in the pafsage of the grotto." 'What,

(said I,) are the names of these excellent flowers?' For I had now pulled some, and really found that there iſsued from them a kind of celestial odour. " They are, (added ſhe,) the flowers of good nature, prudence, temperance, contentment, economy, piety, and other virtues; but, alas! they are very little regarded. You see they are even trampled on as noxious weeds."

Being now advanced within the grotto, I found that both sides of it were cut into a great many apartments or cells, into which great numbers of both sexes, leaving the direct paſsage through the grotto, hurried with precipitation, often abandoning their mates. I could plainly distinguiſh the cells of Diſsipation, Extravagance, Drunkenneſs, Gaming, Jealousy, Adultery, and a great many more, which, as my conductreſs told me, had each in the back part, more or leſs removed, an apartment, stiled the cell of Poverty, or the cell of Disgrace.

All these excavations, as well as the paſsage of the grotto, resembled the plain, in having a great number of trap doors, that inceſsantly swallowed up those who preſsed upon them; and as soon as any one disappeared, the remaining partner instantly hurried out of the grotto, either in a state of despondence or of joy.

I ſhould have mentioned before, that almost every couple that approached towards the grotto, was accompanied by little winged Cupids, that generally abandoned them near the entrance. Very few of these little deities were to be found in the interior parts. For no sooner had any one couple manifested a de-

sire to penetrate these cavities, than they were forsaken; and then, indeed, they rushed in with temerity; though I often found that they separated, each party taking a different cell; and it sometimes happened that one of the parties, generally of the male sex, did not imitate the example of the other, but continued motionless, and seemingly overwhelmed with grief. I perceived that those of the female sex who hurried away in this manner, had generally wan complexions, tawdry habits, and dishevelled hair; and their giddy motions bespoke a plentiful supply of the intoxicating flowers.

Turning now to my left hand, I observed a troop of sprightly young damsels, supporting each a feeble old man, near the entrance of the grotto,—not a single Cupid ever fluttering around them; and they were hardly entered when the ladies for the most part, made the best of their way to the cells of Dissipation, Extravagance, Gaming, and some others; while their companions, worn out with infirmities, soon fell on the trap doors, and disappeared. This the ladies no sooner learned but they instantly rushed out of the grotto. Some were met at the entrance by several handsome young fellows, who seemed to have been waiting for them, and with these they returned in the highest exultation.

I observed great numbers of both sexes carrying shining bags upon their shoulders; but found, in general, that the little Cupids had a rooted aversion at these kinds of burdens, and almost always avoided those who bore them. When any whose shoulders were laden in this manner, happened to stumble on a trap

door, it was curious to see the scramble that ensued; though I found that a set of gentlemen drefsed in black, who ran from all quarters to these contests, were generally the most succefsful. I took particular notice of a young man, who endeavoured to jostle an old woman upon one of the pitfalls, and at the same time kept a watchful eye upon her ſhoulders. He at last succeeded in sinking her; but had scarcely laid hold of the glittering burden when it suddenly disappeared.

My conductrefs desiring me to cast my eyes towards the right hand, I beheld great numbers of both sexes at the entrance of many of the cells, lamenting for their lost companions. "Those, (said ſhe) who stand in this manner, are well supplied with the juice of the fragrant flowers already mentioned." In fact whenever any of them cast a wistful eye towards the cavities, I perceived that they instantly bathed their temples, and regained their usual firmnefs and constancy. While I continued to observe them, some of their companions returned; and it was beautiful to see the mutual endearments and exprefsions of tendernefs and joy that would pafs upon the occasion; though there were, indeed, a few who contracted their countenances into such a gloomy severity, when their lost mates appeared, that these last seemed greatly terrified, and retired again with precipitation.

During all this time the genius was conducting me through the grotto. Our progrefs, indeed, was but slow, being retarded by the numberlefs objects that occurred. The pafsage now turned thin, and

we advanced with rapidity. On each side of us there were but a few straggling couples; when my conductrefs desired me to look forward. I turned my eyes, and beheld something that bore the appearance of a dawn. "What you behold, (said fhe,) is the entrance into the region of matrimonial felicity. It is the place ordained on earth for the reward of virtue." While fhe was yet speaking, it gradually increased to so much splendour, that I felt a surprising gladnefs arising in my soul. I sprung forward with exultation, and entering the happy abode, all my senses were for a moment suspended in a flood of joy. Words are wanting to describe the pleasures of this delightful place. Here I found many happy pairs reposing on the flowery surface, sauntering by brinks of rivulets, or losing themselves among the woods and vallies; while a number of beautiful children, in all the pleasing prattle of innocence, sported around them in the most delightful manner. The roses to them had no thorns; birds hopped from bough to bough, whose beautiful plumage gave pleasure to the eye, as their enchanting notes added to the general harmony. Here I observed among the trees, several of the happy pairs whom I had seen gathering the scented flowers at the entrance of the grotto.

I now began to wifh for a companion, that I might never leave this blifsful region. In vain did I search for a solitary female. None were to be found. The genius now told me that I must stay no longer. So laying hold of my hand, fhe led me back towards

the pafsage of the grotto, while I cast a mournful look behind, fetched a deep sigh, and awoke.

I was wonderfully well pleased with my dream; and returning homeward, could not help exclaiming, with Persius,

Discete, O miseri, et rerum cognoscite causas ! BRITO.

STATISTICAL NOTICES OF NORTH AMERICA.

Copy of a letter from Dr S——l S——th of Princeton, to Dr C——s N——t of Montrose.

Continued from p. 233.

"Are your elections of members of afsembly orderly meetings? or who are the judges of controverted elections?"

Our afsemblies, themselves, like the House of Commons in England, are the judges of their own bodies. I suppose that our meetings for elections are, in general, conducted with as much order and decency as meetings of the same kind have usually been in any part of the world. At present we have hardly any image of that licentiousnefs that prevails in England at a general election. Some politicians say, our elections are too calm: that they do not discover that agitation and zeal which we fhould naturally find in the people if their liberties sufficiently interested them. Some allowance, indeed, fhould be made in this calm picture for the state of Pensylvania, which, as I believe I intimated in my last letter, is the proper region of faction and party in America.

"Are the sentences of your judges peaceably executed? or do appeals and resistance often happen?"

I believe there have been very few instances throughout America, of resistance to the lowest officers of civil government, since the conclusion of the war. The principal fault in the executive of New Jersey, is to be observed in the ſheriff's office. These offices being appointed *by the people, are often, through a desire of popularity, too dilatory and indulgent in executing the sentences of the court.*

"Do your people respect their magistrates more on account of their being elected by themselves?"

If they have not a greater reverence for the splendour of their power, I believe they have a greater confidence in the equity, and mildneſs of its exercise. The principal fault in the appointment of the magistracy in *some of the states*, is, that justices of the peace, and the inferior officers, are *too immediately dependent on the suffrage of the people.* They are not appointed by the executive branch of the government; and they do not hold their offices during good behaviour, but during pleasure, or for certain limited periods.

"Does a jealousy of Congreſs prevail among you? or are the powers of Congreſs properly defined?"

The several states have hitherto been too jealous, not of what Congreſs is, but of what it may be in a future period. That is the reason that although their powers are defined by explicit articles of confederation, yet they appear to be too much limited.

In war, they seem, by their resolutions, to poſseſs all authority ; yet they are too dependent on the concurrence of single states to carry their resolves into effect, and to fulfil their contracts. Reason, indeed, and a sense of common utility, will, while we are exposed to the same dangers, and while our simplicity of manners continues, go very far in inducing the compliance of the states with *proper* measures that regard the benefit of the whole union ; but there is not, in our confederacy, sufficient security that a particular state interest, or convenience, may not sometimes bias members of the union in their judgement and their votes, and so obstruct or embarraſs the general movements.

One of the greatest injuries to Congreſs, since the war, arises from the overcautious policy of the several states, intrusting it with too little power, and retaining too much in their own hands. The men of most distinction and capacity for busineſs have generally declined appointments to that body, and chosen rather, since it could be done in peace, to enjoy the honours and emoluments that were to be obtained at home. There is some reason to fear, lest the influence of Congreſs will continue to decline from the same reason, unleſs the people, roused to a sense of the danger, as well as inutility of their extreme precautions, will concur in vesting their supreme legislature, with a more adequate authority.

" Are all sects equally regarded by your government, and equally eligible to civil offices ? or is there any exception made with regard to Roman catholics ?"

There is no exception. And we find the Roman catholics make zealous and attached citizens to the new states. Their religious principles we do not fear. The American sense of liberty is so high, that we are sure they would not wiſh to give themselves a master even in the Pope. If their principles were arbitrary, they are too few in number to meditate any injury to the state. But, in reality, so far are they, both from servility and immorality, that we esteem them at least as pious men, and as good citizens as the members of the Church of England.

"Are there no feuds, or oppositions of interest, between the several states of union? are these in any way of being leſsened? or are there any proposals of creating new states to turn the balance this or that way?"

There have been several differences between some of the states with regard to territorial claims, founded on the charters to the late colonies that constitute the present states of America; which charters were granted with ſhameful ignorance and indiscretion, and with such absolute inattention to the most simple principles of geography, as plainly ſhows how little the interests or happineſs of this country, were formerly regarded by the court of Great Britain. Some of these disputes, however, have been amicably settled; those particularly between Pensylvania and Virginia; and between Connecticut and Pensylvania. Others are in the way of peaceable accommodation. And I believe, they will all be decided, if not with universal satisfaction, at

least with universal acquiescence. The claims that are most delicate, and which now preſs most for decision, are those which New York, New Hampſhire, and Maſsachuſsets have upon each other. But these states manage them so coolly, and so rationally, that I cannot believe any injury will arise from them to to the public peace and union. Vermont is likely soon to be received into the confederacy; and as this will be an acquisition to the northern states, it is probable the southern ones will the more readily consent to the erection of a new state on the waters of the Ohio behind Virginia. It will, for some time at least, be a point of policy in Congreſs to keep the northern and southern influence as nearly balanced as poſsible.

Thus I have answered the greater part of your inquiries, except those in the first page, which I reserve till another opportunity. In answering them, I think I have not been biaſsed by any predilection for my own country. I see its faults as well as feel its advantages. Its greatest fault, in my opinion, is on the subject of religion; and it is a capital one. But in New England, we have not by any means paid it that attention, or given it that public support which good policy, not to mention piety, would require. We have neglected one of the most powerful springs of that virtue, which is eſsential to the prosperity and existence of republics. The state has left the care of religion solely to providence, and its ministers. It has provided only, that it ſhall not be persecuted. I am far from thinking this all the acknowledgement men are bound to make to God

for his goodneſs in sending them the true religion; or to religion, for the benefits it confers upon the state. Our negligence in this respect, is one of the fruits of our extreme idea of liberty, and one of its most injurious effects.

I ſhall be happy to hear from you, and to receive your remarks, or your farther commands.

I am, reverend Dr, your most obedient humble servant, S——L S——TH.

Concerning the nature and character of religious controversy.

For the Bee.

We are informed by Mr Anquetil de Perron, that about seventy years ago, there arose among the Parsis of the region of Surat in India, two sects, which opposed each other with the most furious zeal. One of these sects was called the *ancient believers*, by a phrase tantamount to catholics; the other, *the reformers*, and the schism commenced on the following occasion:

There came from Kirman a *Destour Mobed** of great abilities, whose name was Djamasp, and who was sent to compose these differences which had arisen among the Parsis concerning the *Penom*, a piece of linen about nine inches square, which the Parsis, at certain times, placed upon the middle of their noses, so that it hung down and covered their mouths.

* The *Destour Mobed* is he who unites the qualifications of a priest and a deacon, and is learned in the canon law of Hindostan.

Some respectable persons contended that this linen ſhould be placed on the noses of dying persons, and others that it ſhould not.

Djamasp very judiciously determined, that it was not absolutely eſsential to the salvation of a dying man, that the Penom ſhould be applied to his nose; as such applications were not customary at Kirman.

A violent ferment arose, and the unfortunate Djamasp was forced to return to Kirman, from whence he had been sent, leaving behind him several disciples and books for the instruction of the people.

Mr Anquetil de Perron took advantage of these broils, to obtain copies of good books given him by persons of both contending parties, with a view to his conversion.

While these interesting disputes were carrying on in the year 1758, the *amiable* East India Company of England were laying siege to the city of Surat.

Such is the end of all fooliſh disputes, where morality and humanity are out of the question. A. B.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

For the Bee.

WHAT kind of reading must that be which can attract or entertain the languid morning spirit of modern effeminacy? Any, indeed, that can but prevent the insupportable toil of *thinking;* that may serve as a preparatory *whet* of *indolence* to the approaching pleasures of the day. Thus it comes to paſs that

trifling eſsays upon nothing, amatory plays, and *corrupting* novels, satirical political pamphlets, that abuse men's characters without improving the knowledge or principles of the times, together with a general haſh of these served up in some monthly meſs of dullneſs, are the meagre literary diet of town and country.

Of how great benefit to his country would that man be, who ſhould render virtue and rational research palatable and agreeable to people of faſhion, through the same channels that had formerly degraded their understandings and corrupted their sentiments!

How much is it to be regretted that that charming sex, formed by the bountiful Author of nature to be the refiner and solacer of man; his amiable gentle, chearful, intelligent companion; and the guardian of his family, ſhould set themselves up as mere toys for the public; undervaluing their own capacities, and levelling themselves with the insignificant pageants of equipage!

That they ſhould paſs their nights in fretting like players on the stage of fruitleſs, joyleſs diſsipation; and their days in the languor of unnatural rest, or in the agitations of artificial sorrow.

Are there any remedies for this miserable calamity of the age and country, but storing the infant minds of that charming sex with useful knowledge, and with resources to guard them against that wretched dependence upon artificial amusement, which is the disgraceful lot of the illiterate.

POETRY.

ON THE SPRING.

WRITTEN ON THE BANKS OF THE CAM.

For the Bee.

SEE where the rosy footed spring
Dances forth in trim array,
Blith as an eastern bridal queen,
To wed the lord of day!
And see where smiling nature homage pays,
And all her breathing incense pours along;
The kindest gales, the ſhrillest wrablers lays,
The streams clear murmur, and the poet's song,
All, all are thine! earth, air, and sea, and ſky,
All wake for thee, fair spring, their sweetest minstrelsy!

I too the gentle influence feel,
And join the rapt'rous choral song;
Musing smooth numbers, as I steal,
Oh Cam! thy banks along.
Though on those banks no myrtle breathes perfume,
No rose unfolds its bluſhing beauties there,
No tulip there displays its gaudy bloom,
No stately lily decks the gay parterre.
Inclos'd within the garden's bright domain,
These all, in eastern pride, laugh round their splendid reign.

Yet wild flow'rs o'er the simple scene
Wait the warm touch of gentle May,
Till up they spring, a num'rous train!
As fair and rich as they.
To me the violet hath a balmy sweet,
To me the king cup scatters golden hues;
E'en in the primrose modest beauties meet,
E'en the meek daisy can instruct the muse.
Roving with silent eyes, ſhe loves to stand;
And ev'n in field flow'rs views a master's matchleſs hand.

And see! the fervid sun beams play,
Dancing on the crisped stream;
While thousand insects light and gay,
Swift o'er the surface ſkim.
Nor does in vain the swan majestic sail,
Nor roving bees buz on the flow'ry brink,
Nor fiſhes down the silver current steal,
Nor little songsters on the margin drink;

And, ſhiv'ring wild, their ſhining pinions ply,
While with their feather'd loves they vernal gambols try.

Oh spring ! I love thy gentle reign,
Yet I could leave thee, gentle spring,
What time his wisdom ſhall ordain,
Who reigns the sov'reign king.
Yes ! thy kind ſhow'rs, thy ſkies of silver hues,
Thy meads and vales, soft gales and gloſsy bloom,
I'd leave them all, so friendly to the muse,
And uncomplaining wait the chearleſs tomb,
Where death's cold season chills the poet's tongue,
Nor more the sylvan muse ſhall wake the vernal song.

Yes, I must leave thee, spring tide fair,
Yet there's a brighter spring above,
Gay smiles the sun the live long year,
And all is light and love.
There, gales immortal, sweetneſs breathe around,
There spring fair ſhining fruits, and golden flow'rs,
Cheriſh'd luxuriant in the laughing ground,
With heaven's own dews, and pure ambrosial ſhow'rs.
There happy beings rest, their conquests won,
And weave from heav'nly trees, a never with'ring crown.

WHAT IS HAPPINESS ?

BY THE LATE DR LADD

'Tis an empty, fleeting ſhade,
By imagination made;
'Tis a bubble, straw, or worse,
'Tis a baby's hobby horse.
'Tis two hundred ſhillings clear,
'Tis ten thousand pounds a-year;
'Tis a title, 'tis a name,
'Tis a puff of empty fame.
Fickle as the breezes blow,
'Tis a lady's yes or no !
And when the description's crown'd,
'Tis just no where to be found.
Arouet ſhews, I must confeſs,
Says *Delia* what is happineſs ?
I wiſh he now would tell us what
This self same happineſs is not ;
What happineſs is not ? I vow
That *Delia*, you have pos'd me now;
What is it not ?—stay ! let me see,
I think dear maid, 'tis *not for me*.

THOUGHTS ON THE EFFECTS OF THE COAL DUTY, UPON THE PROSPERITY AND INDUSTRY OF THE REMOTE AND THINLY PEOPLED COASTS OF BRITAIN.

It cannot be supposed that the parliament of Great Britain will ever lay any sort of burdens upon the united kingdoms, but what they ſhall find of neceſsity at that time, for the preservation and good of the whole; and with due regard to the *circumstances and abilities of every part of the united kingdoms*. TREATY OF UNION, art xiv.

No maxim in political economy can be leſs exceptionable than that which I have chosen as a motto to this paper; nor could any thing tend more to the aggrandisement of a nation, than a strict adherence to the principle here inculcated. In that case, the amount of the revenue would be augmented, while the prosperity of the people would be increased in an equal degree. I am aware, indeed, that it has become the faſhion of late, to inveigh against taxes in general; and to hold out to the public, the great amount of the present revenue of Britain, as a demonstrative proof of the oppreſsion under which the people groan, and to represent that as an unavoidable cause of general poverty. But in few cases could men have reasoned more unconsequentially; because incontrovertible facts may be brought to prove, that nearly the reverse of this is the truth. The experience of all ages sufficiently ſhows, that wherever a people have afforded a great revenue, in proportion to their whole numbers, these people were in thriving and prosperous circumstances; and wherever they are poor, abject, and oppreſsed, the amount of the taxes they pay is next to nothing. Spain, for example, is at present a poor country,—the people are oppreſsed with taxes, which are levied from

them with all poſsible severity; yet in spite of all that squeezing and oppreſsion, the total revenue raised from them does not amount to ten ſhillings a-head. France was also loaded with severe taxes, and the people, comparatively with some other nations, were poor; and they never afforded a revenue, exceeding on an average of the whole kingdom, fifteen ſhillings a-head. Britain is in circumstances greatly more prosperous than either of these countries; and ſhe affords a revenue of about forty ſhillings a-head: and Holland, still more wealthy, taking its whole extent, than Britain, pays, of public taxes, to the amount of more than L. 3 a-head. The proportional revenue, therefore, yielded by a state, is indeed a much clearer indication of the riches or poverty of its people, and the general prosperity of the nation, than any thing else.

I do not say that taxes can never be burdensome or oppreſsive to the people; for well I know that this may be the case; but that, when they are oppreſsive, they become in general unproductive also: I do not say, that if taxes are burdensome and oppreſsive, they will not tend to make a people poor; but that if the people are poor, the amount of the revenue produced by these taxes will be proportionally insignificant: I do not say, that if taxes are high, and the sums of money levied from the people great, this will be a *cause* of wealth; but only that it will be a certain *indication* that they are wealthy. I beg these distinctions may be adverted to.

From general, let us proceed to particular facts. The total amount of revenue drawn from the city of London, considered by itself, is upwards of L. 10 a-head of all its inhabitants; while the average of duties paid all over Scotland does not amount to fifteen ſhillings for each person. But will any one pretend to say, that the people

of London are poorer or more oppressed with taxes than those of Scotland in general? London is the centre of commerce and of wealth; Scotland is comparatively poor, and the taxes there more severely felt than in London.

Let us go still nearer in our inquiry. The revenue afforded by the different parts of Scotland is extremely dissimilar; and the taxes are much more severely felt in one part of the country than another. In Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Paisley, for instance, the people, in general, are wealthy; they live well; entertain elegantly; carry on business with spirit; and discover no symptoms of being borne down by the pressure of taxes. But along the western and northern coasts of Scotland, the people, in general, are poor, dispirited, oppressed; and every tax they pay is squeezed from them by a compulsory force, like that of separating the marrow from the bones. Now, which of these two classes of persons pay a revenue of the highest amount? The following facts will answer this question.

In the year 1775, a committee of the House of Commons having been appointed to inquire into the state of the British fisheries upon the west and northern coasts of Scotland, and to report to the House, soon discovered that the general poverty of the people was the principal obstruction to a prosecution of the fisheries. The consequences of this poverty, as affecting the revenue in particular, are pointed out in the following forcible terms:

"Your committee, willing to afford every possible "light to this House, respecting the situation of that "country, have examined certain accounts referred to "them, *viz.*

" An account of the duties of customs paid or collec-" ted in the counties of Argyle, Invernefs, [Cromarty, " Nairn, Moray *,] Sutherland, Caithnefs, Orkney and " Shetland; as also the nett amount of the said duties, di-" stinguifhing each county and port, from the year 1774 " to the year 1884."

They then state the items of the account, which are here omitted as unnecefsary; and taking the average of these ten years, they thus proceed:

" Your committee can hardly exhibit a more deplo-" rable state of a public revenue. It appears there has " been annually collected for customs in six [nine] coun-" ties, more extensive than all the rest of Scotland, on an " average of the last ten years, L. 5073 : 12 : 0; that the " expence of collection is L. 5167 : 19 : 0; and that an ac-" tual LOSS has accrued on this branch of the revenue, of " about L. 94 : 7 : 0 a-year †. An account of the duties of " excise has been called for; but not yet presented to the " House; but so far as your committee can judge from " analogy, they have little reason to expect a more favour-" able result from their inquiries respecting the excise than " the customs ‡."

There never was a fact respecting the history of finance laid before the public more striking than that which is now under consideration; or one from which more important conclusions may be drawn respecting legislation and the good government of a state.

It is here made apparent, that a country being more in extent than the half of Scotland, and inhabited by above

* These three counties are not mentioned *nominatim* in the report; but they are actually intended in it, as they are within the collection of the district of Invernefs.

† The LOSS in the year 1776, by the account, appears to have been L. 4888 : 18 : 2½.

‡ Third report of the committee of fifheries, dated July 14. 1785. p. 112.

half a million of people, not only does not afford any revenue, but is even a burden upon the other parts of the community. To this let me add, that if the committee had extended their researches into Banffshire, Aberdeenſhire, Kincardineſhire, and Perthſhire, excluding the towns of Aberdeen and Perth, with a small circuit round each, as also to the southern internal counties of Scotland, beyond the coal district, the same result would have appeared.

Since, therefore, there are near two-thirds of the persons in Scotland which contribute nothing towards the public revenue drawn from thence, it follows that the whole of the national revenue drawn from that country, is obtained from the small but active and industrious division of it, on both sides of the friths of the Clyde and Forth, which abounds with manufactures and commerce; and which, at the highest calculation, has never been computed to contain half a million of souls, in which places only, the expence of collecting the taxes, falls ſhort of the revenue collected by them. But from Sir John Sinclair's account of the public revenue, [part iii. p. 354.] it appears that Scotland paid in the year 1788, a free revenue to the amount of more than one million sterling, after deducting the expence of collecting. Here, then, we are forced to draw the same conclusion as before. Those in the Hebrides, &c. who yield *no revenue* to the state whatever, are oppreſsed by the weight of taxes; while those others who yield at the rate of forty ſhillings a-head, are in thriving and prosperous circumstances; and feel not their preſsure in the smallest degree. In ſhort, whatever way we turn ourselves, we find that the prosperity of the people, and the proportional amount of the revenue yielded by them, keep pace with each other. How blindly, then, do those reason, who would persuade the people that the amount of the revenue yielded by us, is a proof

of our national poverty, and a reason why we never can become more wealthy *?

* A writer who pretends to be a leader of the public refpecting affairs of finance, and to direct the people as to what *reforms* are wanted in government, lately laid before his readers a lift of the public burdens of Britain, copied from Sir John Sinclair's hiftory of the revenue, part III. p. 164. with many *unauthorized* alterations, all tending to fwell the amount of the account, fo that inftead of 17,416,052l. of real public revenue raifed in Britain, including expence of collection, bounties, and allowances, as it ftands in the original, he makes it amount to 31,175,299l. which he clofes with this emphatic exclamation, "Thirty " one millions 175 thoufand 299 pounds taken from the profits of the " farmer, manufacturer, artizan, and labourer, is fo heavy a draw- " back upon the induftry of a nation, as to create *an abfolute impoffibility* " *for a people to become rich*, while fuch an enormous fum is annually de- " ducted from the income of their labour and induftry." [Edinburgh Gazetteer, No. 2.] This writer, however, had no occafion to ftop at 31 millions; for, in the prefent ftate of this country, by following the fame principles he has adopted in ftating that account, he might have very eafily made it three hundred millions if he had chofen to do fo.— For example, *Turnpikes*, navigable rivers and canals, charitable donations to the poor, public hofpitals, &c. make fo many items of this account. Now, that the amount of the turnpikes is actually paid by thofe who travel on the roads, which thefe levies are raifed to repair, cannot be difputed; but it can as little be difputed that the fame public pays the hire of carriages and waggons travelling on thefe roads; why then is the total amount of money paid for the carriage of goods of every kind excluded? In the fame manner the lockage dues of canals, and tolls on navigable rivers, cannot be more juftly charged than the freight of goods that go along them; and the freight of goods on a canal is no more a public burden, than the freight of goods to every part of the world. If again, the money I give in private charities be accounted a public tax, furely the money I pay for labourers, the rent I pay for houfes or land, the expences I muft beftow for maintaining my wife and children, and felf, which are articles of much more *unavoidable* expenditure than charitable donations are, ought all to be included. In fhort, every article of expenditure that can be conceived ought to come into this account. And as the total amount of the account, when thus ftated, will always be in proportion to the wealth of the nation; you will thus, by the fame mode of reafoning, be able clearly to demonftrate that in a wealthy nation it is *abfolutely impoffible* for any one to be rich; but that in a poor country the people muft all be exceedingly wealthy. For example, about fifty years ago there was not a fingle turnpike in Scotland fo that that tax, amounting to perhaps 100,000l. a year, was totally wanting. There were not perhaps ten carriages going between Glafgow and Edinburgh in a year, and now there are upwards of ten thoufand; and fo in proportion in other places, fo that the

As it is not easy to trace matters of such a complicated nature as the operations of finance upon industry, and the reciprocal influence of industry upon revenue, it is not surprising that men who have never reflected on these

ſum total of money paid for hire of goods and carriages now may be rated at a couple of millions at leaſt. What a miſerable ſtate then muſt we *now* be in, in compariſon of that which we experienced at the former period? How rich muſt the people have then been, when not a iota on this article was raiſed on induſtry? How poor muſt they *now* be, when ſuch immenſe ſums are *deducted from the income of labour and induſtry!!!*

Such are the ridiculous concluſions to be drawn from the abſurd reaſonings of ill-informed men, who pretend to judge of matters, with the nature of which they are unacquainted. Nor ſhould I have taken the trouble of expoſing their abſurdity at preſent, had it not been with a view to convince many well-intentioned men, that when they ſuffer themſelves to be led by ſuch blind guides, they are in great danger of being drawn on to their own undoing.

In the account above quoted, it is obvious that many of thoſe articles ſtated as *burthens upon induſtry*, are in fact *premiums upon it*; and are the principal cauſes of national wealth. Without roads, as was the caſe fifty years ago, neither manufactures nor commerce could have almoſt an exiſtence among us; and next to theſe, canals, we now know, are among the moſt effectual means of augmenting national proſperity.—Even national taxes, ſtrictly ſo called, when properly applied, ſtand in the ſame predicament. Government may be conſidered, with regard to man, nearly in the ſame light as centinels appointed, by many claſſes of wild animals, to watch over their general ſafety. While theſe centinels are awake, the others are allowed to paſture in peace and ſafety; with this remarkable difference, however, between men and other animals, that theſe centinels have it not in their power either to repreſs inſults committed by individuals upon each other, nor to protect the whole body from external injury. All they can do is to give the alarm when external danger appears, and then to leave every individual to provide for his own ſafety the beſt way he can. But with regard to government among men, it extends, not only to the warning of danger from without, but alſo to the warding it off; not only does it afford protection from foreign rapacity, but alſo provides perfect ſecurity againſt the injuſtice of neighbours, the rapacity of vagabonds, and the inſults of power. Under the protection of this unobſerved ſhield, every man is allowed to mind his own affairs, in tranquillity and peace; and to follow them in what manner he judges moſt proper. Were he deprived for a moment of this protecting ſhield, his whole time would be leſs than ſufficient for guarding his perſonal ſafety; and all other buſineſs muſt of courſe be at an end. At preſent he has never occaſion to ſpend a ſingle thought on that momentous ſubject. Government is therefore the ſource of all induſtry and wealth, and the

subjects, ſhould often fall into miſtakes, when they pretend to decide magiſterially upon it. To explain, however, in ſome meaſure, to the moſt ordinary underſtand-

taxes, which alone can ſupport government, may be conſidered as the direct parent of every bleſſing we enjoy.

Allow me to ſtate a ſingle inſtance, as an illuſtration of the poſitions here aſſumed. The poſt-office is one of the principal branches of revenue, which derives its organization from the influence of government. Government alone, by poſſeſſing the means of directing the ſcattered efforts of millions of men towards one point, has it in its power to make all thoſe little efforts, which ſeparately would be nothing, when thus united, to become irreſiſtible. If the poſt office were annihilated, what would be the conſequence? Without a regular government to take charge of ſuch a complicated buſineſs it never could have been eſtabliſhed. Were individuals left to find out channels of conveyance, the expence would be inſuperable; were aſſociations to attempt it, the ſame objection would remain. The expence would be enormous, the riſk infinite; and of courſe all the channels of commerce would be ſhut up for ever.

This would be the caſe even when we conſider our own iſland only *; but when we extend our thoughts beyond this iſland, the poſt-office opens to our view a ſcene ſo immenſe, ſo ſtupenduouſly grand, as to fill the mind with wonder and aſtoniſhment. I, for example, put in a dozen of letters into the poſt-office, at the expence of a few ſhillings, directed to the moſt remote corners of this habitable globe, and immediately retire to reſt, or play, or the convivial enjoyment of my friend, without the ſmalleſt anxiety, well knowing that in my ſervice, men will be employed continually travelling through night and day, for days, for weeks, for months, for years: that the moſt ſtormy ſeas will preſent no barrier to my commands; that the deepeſt ſnows will not interrupt the progreſs of my meſſengers; that the bleakeſt deſarts will be paſſed to fulfil my will: nor will there be any relaxation in their exertions till anſwers ſhall be brought back from all the corners of the univerſe. Had any man ſaid that ſuch a thing could be accompliſhed by man, before it had been actually done, it would have been declared to be utterly beyond the reach of human powers: yet ſuch, every man in Britain knows is the caſe; and he regards it not, becauſe this is done with ſo much eaſe to himſelf as never to excite a thought in his boſom. It is government alone, however, which effects this, and thouſands of other accommodations to every man; by the means of which he is enabled to carry on his trade with advantage, and to avail himſelf of his induſtry. All this it is enabled to do ſolely by means of taxes.

* *It appears by hiſtorical records, that in the days of Elizabeth, when commerce was not entirely in its infancy, no letter could be ſent between England and Scotland but by occaſional meſſengers; and that the ſpeedieſt expreſs at that time took twelve days at leaſt to go between London and Edinburgh.*

ings, the manner in which the paradoxical phenomenon I have here stated is produced, let the following fact be adverted to.

Little are many of those who call out loudly againſt taxes, aware of the infinite benefits he derives from them; or of the dreadful ſtate to which he would be reduced, were he deprived of the reſources that theſe afford to his induſtry.

The *expence* of government is another ſource of clamour to unthinking men in the preſent day; and the multitude have been taught to believe, that wherever the expence of government is ſmall, the adminiſtration is good; and the reverſe. This is one of thoſe arguments well calculated to inflame the minds of the people; becauſe every one has a natural propenſity to believe, that men who have the handling of public money will miſapply it—which is a truth that will not be denied by any thinking perſon.—That ſuch miſapplications may be found in every government, I have no doubt: and in our own as readily as any other. This is a good argument for attention and a careful inveſtigation of particulars: but as to the general argument, which proceeds on the ſuppoſition that abuſes of any one government muſt always be in proportion to the expence of it when compared with that of another country, nothing can be more falſe.

The expence of government muſt ever keep pace in ſome meaſure with the wealth of the people governed; for a very obvious reaſon; viz. becauſe no man will leave his private buſineſs or amuſements, when his fortune is ſuch as to permit him to indulge them, in order to appropriate his time to the public functions of the State, unleſs he ſhall obtain emoluments proportioned to what he would conſider as a ſufficient compenſation for his time. At the æra of the Union, for example, a merchant or manufacturer in Scotland, would have been reckoned a very reſpectable man, who could afford to ſpend a *hundred* pounds a year upon his family; but at the preſent day it is nothing uncommon to find a merchant or manufacturer there who can ſpend a *thouſand* pounds a year; and a proportional advance has taken place in other departments. It follows then, that one hundred pounds a year, ſhould, at the Union, have been deemed nearly the ſame temptation for a man to abandon his private buſineſs, and accept of ſome department under government, as a thouſand pounds would now be. Can it therefore be ſuppoſed that the ſame buſineſs can now be carried on by government, at the ſame expence as formerly? That is impoſſible. Does not every man in Edinburgh know, that the ſalaries of the Judges were lately conſiderably augmented; and that they are ſtill ſo low, that it is with great difficulty government can find an advocate, of abilities, who enjoys good buſineſs, that will accept of a gown, till he has either made ſo much money, or has become ſo old, as to wiſh for more eaſe than he can enjoy while practiſing at the bar. It is therefore an unavoidable conſequence, that in a wealthy country, the expence of government muſt of neceſſity be greater in proportion to the functions it has to perform than in a poor one, altogether independent of miſmanagement or other circumſtances.

On the banks of the river Leven, in Dumbartonſhire; a small valley, not exceeding five miles in length, and half a mile in breadth, there have been eſtabliſhed, within the course of ten or fifteen years, manufactures to such an extent, that the duties paid by this small district alone, in the year ending on the 5th of July 1792, amounted to the amazing sum of L.55,618, 2 s. sterling. This district is not equal in extent to an ordinary pariſh; and its whole population is about a thousand souls. Here, then, we find that each person pays of public taxes, to the amount of more than L. 55. What a ruinous state must these poor people be in! would our new teachers say. This, they would exultingly exclaim, if the fact had fallen under their notice, must occasion such a "drawback upon the industry of "a nation, as to create *an absolute impoſsibility for a people* "*to become rich*, while such an enormous sum is annually "deducted from the income of their labour and industry." But how do the facts tally with their reasoning? So far is it from being an *absolute impoſsibility* for the manufacturers to become rich, that there never were manufacturers in a more thriving way; nor almost any others in this country who became rich with greater rapidity. In ſhort, here again we might invert the reasoning once more, and say, with much greater truth, "if the manufacturers were not growing rich, it would create an absolute impoſsibility in them to pay such immense sums to the revenue;" for no art whatever can squeeze a great revenue from a poor and oppreſsed people.

From these facts may be drawn three inferences of great political importance.

The *first* is, that since it appears that in matters of finance, the real consequence of a measure may be extremely different from what might be expected to result from it, on the first superficial view of the subject, those who

have not been accustomed to investigations of this nature, ought to be slow in adopting opinions, and cautious in deciding upon them; seeing they may so readily be induced, from a partial view of the subject, to judge erroneously *.

* Tho' I have always avoided to enter on party politics in this miscellany, and of late have waved political discussions of all sorts, with more than ordinary care, in hopes that the natural good sense of the people of this country would bring them to see the futility of those crude notions respecting government which have been so industriously disseminated among them; but finding that these doctrines have been carried much farther than there was reason to apprehend, and that open attempts begin to be avowed towards sapping the foundations of our happy constitution, I think myself called on openly to avow myself a defender of that constitution, under the protecting influence of which, this nation enjoys a degree of prosperity, and its inhabitants a personal safety and political freedom, that never was equalled in any part of the world; and which, if once deranged, there is too much reason to fear might never be recovered again.

No person who has read my writings will suspect that I am likely to become the blind panegyrist of any minister, or the steady partizan of his opponents. With the prosperity or adversity of any party, or the coming in or going out of office of any man, I take no concern; and I cannot but smile when I hear the moral character and immaculate principles of any of these persons, held up to view as objects of admiration to the multitude. If the preservation of this, or any other nation, depended on the virtue of its Ministers, it would soon be at an end. The excellence of our constitution consists in its power of resisting even the influence of vice, and in preserving the rights of men, in spite of the corruption of courtiers, or the venality of the people; for the last, I am afraid, is at least equal to that of the first; and ought to be guarded against with equal care. It is this universal protection our constitution affords, equally against the vices of those of high and of low station, which forms the discriminating feature that distinguishes it from all others that ever did exist; and which I, as a real friend of the people, and a protector of those who know not how to protect themselves, shall endeavour to preserve from every inconsiderate innovation.

It has become of late the fashionable cry that all power ought to be entrusted with the people; as if we were not acquainted with the miserable effects that have resulted from this kind of government, in every State that exceeded the size of a good parish, or possessed the means of acquiring wealth, where it has been tried, from the beginning of the world till the present time.

Others cry loud for a *reform* in parliament. If by a reform is meant such an alteration, either in the laws, or the mode of election, as a change in the circumstances of the country shall have rendered neces-

The *second* is, that since the tax may be light and easy to one part of the community, while it is severe and op-preſsive to another part of it; and since it will always happen that wherever its preſsure is light it will be a pro-

ſary, I can underſtand the meaning of it, and approve the principle. Such alterations have in fact been made, from time to time, in every age; and it is by that means our conſtitution has gradually attained the perfection it poſſeſſes; and, by a continuance of the ſame practice, can alone preſerve it But when they talk of *bringing back the conſtitution to its original ſtate, or purity*, I then ſee that the perſons who uſe that language, either do not themſelves underſtand what they ſay, or they mean to impoſe upon thoſe to whom they ſpeak. Every perſon in the leaſt acquainted with the hiſtory of our conſtitution, knows, that it was originally a moſt licentious ariſtocracy, in which the Nobles, then called Barons, were every thing, and the *people* nothing; if the moſt abject ſlaves deſerve that name. Gradually the *crown* became the protector of the *people*, and emancipated them from that miſerable ſtate of political thraldom under which they had ſo long groaned. The monarch and the people, by mutually ſupporting each other, at length became a counterpoiſe to the turbulent nobles, and inſolent prelates; and, by a ſeries of gradual and judicious innovations, cruſhed their enormous power, and reared up that conſtitution of which we now ſo juſtly boaſt. Thoſe therefore who talk of *bringing back the conſtitution to its original purity* know not what they ſay; or they mean, by theſe plauſible words, to impoſe upon the ignorant multitude.

Others talk of a radical reform of parliament, which ſhall be calculated to guard againſt *all corruption* in time to come. Such a change would be a deſirable reform indeed! but how is it to be done? This they pretend to think would be effectually done, if the rights of election were extended to all the people. There are, I believe, in this kingdom at the preſent moment, many well-meaning honeſt men, who ſeriouſly believe, that, if this regulation were adopted, almoſt every political evil that can diſtreſs a State, would be inſtantly removed. I, however, who have for many years paſt been attentive to the operation of laws, have ſo often ſeen, that the effect that reſulted from certain regulations has been exceedingly different from what was expected, that I have acquired a degree of diffidence with regard to any *great* alteration in government, that cannot be eaſily removed. What might be *all* the political conſequences of ſuch a great alteration, neither I, nor any other perſon, can at preſent foreſee; but that the effects would be very different from what the favourers of this plan ſeem to expect, requires little political acumen to perceive. I ſhall endeavour to point out a few of them.

Let us ſuppoſe for a moment that the right of electing members of parliament ſhould be lodged in the heads of families, univerſally, throughout the whole of Britain; as this ſeems to be as natural a mode of re-

ductive tax, and where it acts as an oppreſsive burden upon the people, the revenue afforded by it will be trifling and inconſiderable; it would ſeem that legiſlators who have a ſincere deſire to promote the welfare of the

gulating popular elections as any that can be conceived. I ſhall firſt conſider what would be the effect of this regulation in towns, and next in the country.

In towns, without taking into account the turbulence and diſſipation this would occaſion, and the difficulty of correcting abuſes in the manner of voting, &c. one moſt obvious conſequence would be, that a great manufacturer, who employs many hundreds of hands, would naturally poſſeſs the power of giving an equal number of votes. At preſent indeed, while the demand for our manufactures is ſuch as to exceed our power to ſupply, and when of courſe operative hands are ſo ſcarce as to require to be courted, this might not be altogether the caſe; but no ſooner would the number of hands be equal to, or greater than the demand for them, than this would be abſolutely, and inevitably experienced: for every man that voted contrary to the will of his maſter, would be turned out of employment.

In the preſent ſituation of things the caſe might be a little varied, but the effect would not be materially different. A diſcontented nobleman, or perſon of high rank, who had loſt his fortune by gaming or other faſhionable extravagancies, and who had not received all the emoluments from the miniſter that he expected, might demean himſelf ſo far, as to become a promoter of ſocieties and clubs among the lower ranks of the people, under the ſpecious pretext of alleviating taxes, and reforming abuſes; of which they knew juſt as much as he ſhould be pleaſed to tell them. This perſon, or the minion of a miniſter, or the beautiful wife of a grandee, by treating them with *extreme reſpect*, would ſo effectually flatter their vanity, as to get them to vote, without heſitation, for any perſon he pleaſed to recommend.—Other ſatellites would be employed to flatter and harangue other ſocieties; and ſo the thing would go on.—Not one of thoſe numerous members of theſe ſocieties, would know either the talents or diſpoſitions of the perſon for whom they voted; but the miniſter, or any other man who thus choſe to act, would eaſily effect his purpoſe when he pleaſed.

In the country, matters would be ſtill worſe. At preſent we complain, not without reaſon, that a nobleman, who by the laws of the land, has no right to vote for a member of parliament himſelf, ſhould attempt, by creating nominal and fictitious votes, to acquire an undue influence; and the courts of juſtice have, I think, with much propriety, of late, interfered to check this ſort of fraudulent encroachment. But what would happen ſhould this *reform* take place, which ſo many perſons clamourouſly call out for? Why theſe nobles and great men would at once be freed from an immenſe deal of trouble and expence they have

people intrusted to their care, could not obtain a more infallible rule for judging of the beneficial or hurtful tendency of any individual tax, or its congruity or incongruity to the different local circumstances of the country in various places, than to remark what is the *quantum* of the

been hitherto obliged to be at, in attempting in vain, to obtain a degree of influence not one hundredth part ſo great as this law, at one ſtroke, would confer upon them. All that the great proprietors of land would then have to do, would be to leave their tenants without leaſes, as is at preſent done in many parts of England, from the ſame motive; and then, if ever a tenant ſhould vote differently from what his landlord wiſhed him to do, he would be ſure to be turned out of his farm. Thus would a noble duke, or other perſon of great fortune, be able, without trouble or expence, to make, *perhaps*, five or ſix county members when he pleaſed; ſo that the frequency of elections would give him no diſturbance.—Leſſer proprietors, as happened of old in the infancy of our conſtitution, before the principles of freedom grew up in it, feeling their own inſignificance, and that they could only become of conſequence, by allying themſelves with their powerful neighbours, would pay them homage, that they in their turn might receive protection. The freedom of which we juſtly boaſt at preſent, would thus be, in a moment, effectually deſtroyed; and in a few years, we ſhould be as deſpicable ſlaves, as thoſe of Poland or Ruſſia now are. Theſe conſequences are clearly the reſult of the meaſures ſo warmly recommended by even the moderate part of thoſe who ſtile themſelves the friends of the people. As to thoſe who wiſh to imitate the conduct of France, it diſcovers ſuch a degree of inſanity, that to pretend to reaſon with them would be highly ridiculous. Thoſe who cannot ſee at once the ruinous tendency of the conduct of that people, for ſyſtem of government it cannot be called, could not be convinced, were one even raiſed from the dead to warn them of it.

From theſe ſlight ſketches, which might be extended much farther, I ſhould fain hope, it would be made apparent, that the buſineſs of a reform in government, is a matter of much greater intricacy, and more ſerious difficulty, than many perſons ſeem at preſent to apprehend; and will be convinced that the wiſeſt thing that can be done, is to avoid *haſty* and *indigeſted* innovations, or *great* alterations of any ſort; and that this ought to be particularly guarded againſt, at a time when the minds of the multitude, heated by wild and impracticable notions, run a riſk of influencing the deciſions of even the higher orders of the community. It is a maxim in private life, that no man ought to act, in a caſe of importance, while he feels himſelf under the influence of any ſtrong paſſion or prejudice: The rule will equally apply to the conduct of men, in regard to public affairs.

revenue arising from that tax, in proportion to the number of people in different districts.

The *third* inference is, that as taxes in general preſs leſs severely upon the inhabitants of large and opulent towns, and trading and commercial districts, than on distant rural provinces, where wealth and commerce have not been fully eſtabliſhed, it is of great consequence that legislators, when about to adopt any fiscal regulation, ſhould *not* form a judgement of its effects upon the community at large, from what they observe it will produce on the people in their immediate neighbourhood; but they ought to be particularly attentive to observe what will be its operation upon the distant provinces, in order that it may be adapted to the circumstances and situation of these provinces. For if the regulation ſhall be such as to repreſs the industry of the people in these poor provinces, it will not only be there unproductive itself, but it will, in the most effectual manner, render all other taxes unproductive, and keep the people ever poor, dispirited, and incapable of contributing their ſhare towards the public revenue of the state, and of course will render the burden more heavy upon the others. In these circumstances, it becomes the duty of a wise legislator, not from principles of humanity alone, but in compliance with the dictates of natural equity and sound policy, so to mitigate every burden imposed, as to be exactly proportioned to the circumstances of the district, and abilities of the people, in every part of the country, wherever that can be done.

Upon these principles I wiſh to take a view of the effects of the tax upon coals, carried coastwise, in Britain, upon the prosperity of the people, the industry of different districts, and the amount of the national revenue; and I think I ſhall be able to ſhow, that it has been exten-

ded to many parts of the country where it never ought to have taken place; where it has long operated as a bar to industry, and as a regulation highly oppreſsive to a very numerous people; and that this regulation was originally adopted, and has been since blindly continued, *to the great diminution of the national revenue*, merely because its consequences had not been adverted to at first, nor hitherto sufficiently attended to.

Long before the union, a duty had been imposed upon coals carried coastwise *in England*; and as the coals thus carried coastwise there, had been consumed chiefly in London, the wealthy emporium of the empire, where it was found to be a productive, and consequently not an oppreſsive tax, it seems to have been hence raſhly concluded, that if the same tax ſhould be extended to all other parts of the empire, neither would it be oppreſsive there, and that of course it would yield a great revenue.

According to this mode of reasoning, the Britiſh parliament, in the year 1710, when the temporary law imposing a duty on all coals carried coastwise to any part in England, from the ports of Newcastle and Sunderland, expired, a new act was obtained, imposing a duty of 3 s. 8 d. *per* ton, upon all coals carried coastwise *from these or any other ports in Britain*, to any part in the island, though the commiſsioners for Scotland had warmly opposed this clause at the union, and effectually excluded it from being then adopted; because they knew it was not compatible with the circumstances of the people of this country, and would prove ruinous to the industry of the nation.

The same arguments would have applied to several places in E gland and Wales, had they been adverted to at the time; but the cause of the poor at that time, as at many others, was not adverted to; because they had nobody to

represent their case; and because the richest and most manufacturing and commercial districts, both in Scotland and England, were not to be materially affected by that law. In England, the large extensive and manufacturing counties of York; as also Westmoreland, Lancashire, Shropshire, &c. possessing inexhaustible mines of coals, which could be distributed to the manufacturing inland counties every where, by means of the Ouse, the Trent, the Humber and the Severn; and the rivers or canals leading from or to them, were not in the smallest degree affected by it; and in Scotland the shires of Renfrew, Lanark, and Ayr, every where abounding in coal; together with that rich and populous district along the frith of Forth, the legal limits of which had been fixed at St Abbs Head on the south, and the Red Head on the north, being, *as a frith*, not liable to pay any coal duty, were also unaffected by this law. But the places beyond that, being then poor, and in a great measure unknown, and at that time chiefly supplied with fuel from the plentiful peat mosses which then abounded there, did not oppose the law, and were of course disregarded.

Thus, was established, by the British parliament, unweetingly, a fiscal regulation, which has proved, in its operation, the most hurtful of any law that ever was adopted in a civilized country; and it has since been continued unrepealed, merely because the baneful influence of its operations have not been sufficiently adverted to.

To obtain an increase of revenue could be the only motive for originally imposing that tax: but the experience of near a century has proved, that, in this respect, those who recommended it had judged erroneously; and if administration had been as attentive to the general interests of the people, as they ought to have been, or had adverted to the rule for discriminating between oppres-

sive and easy taxes, above established, it would have been long ago taken off from those places where it was unproductive, and where of course it operated as a bar to industry. But as this rule seems not to have been thought of, there has not, hitherto, been any attempt made to discriminate in matters of this sort.

This has, however, been done *in part*, by the committee of fisheries above mentioned; for, in the course of their investigations, having found that one great cause of the poverty of the people in the remote parts of Scotland, from which arose that impotence with regard to the payment of taxes, which so forcibly struck them, was the want of fuel, occasioned by the high price of coals when loaded with a duty, they naturally wished to know what was the amount of revenue arising from that destructive tax. Their words are here equally clear and decisive as in other parts of their report.

"It appears from accounts laid on your table, that the "whole nett duty collected on coal over *all Scotland*, does "not exceed L.3000 a-year; which furnishes the most con-"vincing proof to your committee, that the present du-"ties are too high, and operate more as a prohibition on "the use of the article, than as a benefit to the revenue." [p. 114.]

The inconveniences to which the inhabitants are subjected on account of this duty, are thus justly stated by the same committee: "The labour of the inhabitants of those "parts where the fisheries would be best carried on, being "employed for the greatest part of the summer in provi-"ding fuel for themselves or others, it appears to your com-"mittee, that a remission of the duty on coal carried coast-"wise, would enable the people to purchase coal at a mo-"derate price; would remove one of the great obstacles to "their collecting themselves together in towns and villages,

"and allow them to employ the summer in prosecuting the "fisheries, and other branches of industry." [Ibid.]

It did not fall within the object of their inquiry, to ascertain the amount of this tax in different parts of England, or in Wales, whose circumstances nearly resemble those of Scotland, and where I can have no doubt this tax will be equally unproductive and oppressive; but I trust, that when an investigation of this kind shall be attempted by an enlightened minister, he will perceive the very great detriment that accrues to the nation at large, from the operation of this cruel, impolitic, and unproductive tax; and some others that operate in the same manner; and the prodigious defalcation of revenue it has long occasioned: and will of course, at once, abolish it in all places, wherever situated, where it shall appear, from the scantiness of the revenue afforded by it, that it has there operated as a bar to the industry of the people, and by that means has been a cause of general poverty among them. It is by attentions of this sort, to the *real* interests of the lower classes of the people intrusted to his care, that a minister should lay the sure foundations of a lasting fame; and not by aiming at that kind of temporary power which is to be obtained by augmenting the influence of rich and luxurious monopolizers, or by cherishing wealthy communities and corporations, which strive to repress the industry of distant parts of the country, that they themselves may be the greater gainers by that superiority which they have already so decidedly obtained.

Believing, as I myself do, that Britain never did possess a minister who was more *capable* than the present one, of judging of the measures that are hurtful or beneficial to the country; and being willing to hope that he will be inclined to promote the general interests of the country, if rightly informed of facts respecting those remote parts,

which he has no opportunity of observing himself, I think it my duty, in this manner, to do what I can to bring to his view, the real state of a part of the country, which has hitherto attracted a very small ſhare of the attention of government; and which, if it did obtain a proper ſhare of its notice, might become one of the most valuable provinces of the Britiſh empire: so that instead of being a burden upon the revenue, it might come to be a flouriſhing and productive district. If others, who are more nearly interested in the prosperity of these remote regions than myself, and who equally know the situation of the people, ſhall embrace the opportunity that is now offered to them; without tumultuous combinations, or factious clamour, calmly to represent the state of the country where they respectively inhabit, in true colours, without exaggeration or disguise, and point out the circumstances that have most contributed to depreſs the people, and the means of bettering their condition, I ſhould think there is every reason to believe, that this kind of information would have its due weight; as it ever ought to have with the rulers of a nation.

And as every person who lives in the remote parts of Scotland, must know, that no one circumstance has contributed more effectually to repreſs the industry of the people, and to prevent the establiſhment of manufactures among them, than the want of coal; and as they must be sensible that the coal tax there, has NOT contributed towards "the good of the whole kingdom," but quite the reverse; and that it has evidently been imposed without a due regard "to the circumstances and abilities," of that part of the kingdom; and as they must also see, that so long as the present coal duty ſhall continue to be levied there, that no efforts within their power can ever render the people easy and independent in circum-

stances; yet as it does not appear that parliament was ever properly apprised of these circumstances, we cannot so much accuse that body of impropriety of conduct, as the inhabitants themselves of culpable negligence, in not representing these circumstances to parliament. They ought, therefore, surely to embrace the present opportunity, of publicly declaring what they know respecting the operation of the coal tax there; that neither the present, nor future ministers, may have it in their power to plead ignorance as an excuse for any impropriety of conduct with regard to the circumstances of these distant regions.

It is thus, and thus only, that the more wealthy inhabitants of these districts, can free themselves from blame in the eyes of their descendants.

Let me then exhort my countrymen, instead of busying their heads about wild and impracticable systems of reform, as they are improperly called, to turn their attention to discover those real evils that occasion distreſs to their friends and dependants, and point them out distinctly to the minister and parliament; who being thus informed as to the *real* state of those remote countries, may be enabled to adopt such measures as ſhall tend effectually to relieve them; and thus add to the "general good and prosperity of the whole." It is now ten years since I first beheld, in person, the state of that country; and was witneſs to the misery under which the people groan, because of the coal tax, and similar injudicious regulations. Since then, I have not ceased to embrace every proper opportunity of pleading their cause, with all the energy in my power. My efforts have not been seconded with all that ardour that might have been expected, by those who would be chiefly benefitted by the prosperity of these poor people: but I cannot persuade myself that the present opportunity will not be embraced; and I am inclined to hope,

that if by this means a salutary system of legislation for those parts of the country ſhall begin to be adopted, the good effects of it will soon become so apparent, as to be the cause of its being gradually extended to other articles of equal importance to this country.

Let it not, however, be imagined, that I hereby invite persons to endeavour to discover evils that do not exist. Should my own former writings, which treated of this subject, be thrown aside, I have before me sufficient evidence to produce, that this evil has been long and deeply felt, and universally complained of, by those whose situation enabled them to observe the circumstances of the people nearly. The following extracts from Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, prove this in the most convincing manner. They were written by a set of men respectable for their knowledge and primitive simplicity of manners;— a set of men totally unconnected,—and most of these writers here quoted, unknown to one another;—each of whom wrote in his retired abode, the unbiaſsed dictates of his own mind, which had been suggested by occurrences that fell under his own observation.

Extracts from Sir John Sinclair's statistical account of Scotland.

"The fuel commonly made use of, is peat; which is very expensive, especially in the south parts of the pariſh, which lie at a great distance from moſses. Some people of late have begun to use coals, both Scotch and Engliſh, which would be, by far, the cheapest fuel, were it not burdened with a most unreasonable tax". [Mr James Miln, Ellon, Aberdeenſhire, vol. iii. p. 101.]

"There is no other fuel than coal. If we were not almost prohibited from using Scotch coals, with one of the most unreasonable duties that was ever imposed, *viz.* 3s. 8 d.

per ton, no other coals would be used." [Mr Geo. Tod, Eyemouth, Berwickshire, p. 116.]

"The inhabitants of that part of the parish which is situated upon Loch Fine side, labour under a very great disadvantage with regard to fuel. The peats there are scarce, and at such a distance, on the tops of high, steep, and rugged mountains, that they are carried to the houses at a very great expence. At the same time, the great distance from the low country, and the crossness of the navigation, render the freight of coal very high; but, as if these natural disadvantages were not sufficiently distressing, the coals are subjected to a very heavy duty. Whatever may have been the original cause of this tax, it is astonishing that the legislature of a free and enlightened nation, should have so long continued a duty so oppressive and partial, and which so directly counteracts every attempt that can be made to improve those remote parts of the kingdom." [Mr Dougal M'Dougal, Loch-goil-head and Kilmorich, Argyleshire, vol. iv. p. 194.]

"Peat moss is also becoming scarce. This would really be an advantage, if the absurd and oppressive tax on coals were repealed, which puts it out of the power of the poor people to purchase coals." [Dr Samuel Copland, Fintray, Aberdeenshire, p. 238.]

"The great, and almost the only drawback which the parish sustains, is the want of coals. Our distance from these is about sixteen miles, which renders their carriage by land very expensive; and the unreasonable, oppressive tax laid upon coals imported, renders their carriage by sea still more burdensome." [Mr James Yorstoun, Hoddom, Dumfriesshire, p. 353.]

"There are coals at the distance of nine or ten miles; but they are not so good as those to be had in Ballycastle, in Ireland; from whence, or from Ayrshire,

they would readily carry them, were it not for the tax imposed upon coals carried coastwise, which is a great hinderance to this part of the country." [Mr David Campbell, Southend, Argyleſhire, p. 364.]

"The fuel commonly used is coal, brought from the frith of Forth, and sold at the harbour of Arbroath, at 6s. 6d. a cart load, being 72 stone. But upon all that paſs the Red Head, northward, there is a tax of 18½d. *per* boll. There are indeed still some whin and broom in the country, but the supply from these is become, by the improvements in agriculture, exceedingly scarce." [Mr John Carnegie, Inverkeilor, Forfarſhire, p. 280.]

"If the attention of government could be awakened to the many evils arising from the impolitic tax on coals, and could be prevailed upon to substitute some other revenue in its stead, it would be an eſsential benefit to the north of Scotland in general, and to this province in particular." [Mr Lewis Gordon, Drainy, Morayſhire, vol. iv. p. 83.]

"A disadvantage much felt in this pariſh is the scarcity of fuel. The common tenants and cottagers depend chiefly upon turf *, the peat moſses being almost exhausted. The proprietors and better tenants bring coals from Sunderland or Newcastle; but the high price, owing to the duty on this article, puts these beyond the reach of the poor." [Mr Alexander Fraser, Kirkhill, Inver neſsſhire, ib. p. 122.]

"Nature has denied coal to this pariſh, and that want is more sensibly felt by a tax of 2 s. the boll upon importation." [Mr Robert Hannah, Strickathrow, Forfarſhire, p. 214.]

* By *turf* is here meant the sod pared from the surface of heath ground. The bruſh and roots render it in some measure capable of being consumed slowly by fire; but it is a miserable substitute for fuel. *Edit.*

"The principal disadvantage under which this pariſh labours, is the scarcity of fuel.——The few heritors, and the better sort of farmers, now burn coal. But it is of the greatest disadvantage to the pariſh to want fuel, or not to get coal at an easy rate; for it costs generally 2 s. 2 d. the barrel; and the farmers and cottagers spend all the summer, and part of the harvest, in procuring some bad turf." [Mr James Urquhart, Fearn, Roſsſhire, p. 297.]

"The condition of the people might be ameliorated considerably, could they have coals duty free, [p. 298.]——so that, in one word, the only means whereby the condition of the people could be ameliorated, next to better seasons, would be, for the legislature to allow coals duty free." [p. 301.]

"But perhaps the greatest barrier against houſhold industry and manufacture among us, is the scarcity of fuel in many parts of the country. A human being, pinched with cold, when confined within doors, is always an inactive being. The day light during winter, is spent by many of the women and children in gathering *elding*, as they call it; that is, sticks, furze or broom, for fuel; and the evening in warming their ſhivering limbs before the scanty fire it produces. Could our legislators be conducted through this pariſh in the winter months; could the Lords and Commons, during the Christmas receſs, visit the cottages of the poor through these parts of the united kingdoms, where nature hath refused coal, and *their* laws have more than doubled the price of it, this would be Shakespeare's "wholesome physic," and would, more than any thing else, quicken their invention to find ways and means of supplying the place of the worst of laws." [Mr John Graham, Kirkenner, Wigton county, p. 147.]

These extracts might have been made more numerous if it had been judged proper; but the above are sufficient

to show the uniformity of opinion, and the exact similarity of ideas that prevail in every part of the country on this subject.

It is from motives of humanity only, and private expediency, that these men speak. I plead for a repeal of the coal tax, not less from these motives, than from those of natural justice and political expediency. In Scotland, the coal countries are divided from those which have none, by stupenduous mountains, through which it is impossible to carry coals by means of rivers and canals, as is done through the central counties of England. The sea is in fact the only channel through which weighty commodities can ever be carried from one part of that country to another. This is, indeed, the only public road that can there be established. To tax coals going on that road, is like taxing the waggons on the king's high way in other parts of the country. It is banishing manufactures for ever, from innumerable places, which possess, in every other respect, conveniences for manufactures and for trade, that cannot be equalled in any other part of Europe. I speak this with emphasis; because I know it to be true; and because I know that if the coal duty be taken off, this will in time be discovered, to the astonishment of Europe; though it may perhaps be long after I am laid into my grave. We have already seen, that in a very small district in Scotland, manufactures have risen in a few years to such a height, as to afford a revenue of more than L. 55,000 a-year. Were all the places in those regions that are now deprived of coals, and which are equally susceptible of it, converted to as beneficial purposes, the amount of the revenue drawn from thence would be inconceivably great.

The people, both in Scotland, and similarly situated places in England, have also reason to complain that this

tax was imposed upon them contrary to the national faith pledged at the union; for no one can ever seriously maintain, that this tax was ever imposed, either with a due regard "to the good of the whole," or a respect to "the circumstances and abilities" of the people.

Those who inhabit the west coast of Britain have still farther reason to complain that they have been treated with singular severity in regard to this article; for while the people of Ireland have been permitted to import as many coals as they pleased, from Britain, at the low duty of 9⅓ d *per* ton, they themselves have been debarred from obtaining this necefsary of life, unlefs under a duty of nearly FIVE times that amount. What was the policy which could induce the Britifh parliament to establifh such an unnatural distinction, it is hard to say; but certainly it could not be a desire to augment the revenue of Britain; for by allowing the Irifh rock salt from Liverpool, which the Britifh are also prohibited from obtaining, together with coal on this low duty, the Irifh are enabled to manufacture salt, on such easy terms, as to have eftablifhed a contraband trade in that article along all the west coasts of Britain, which no human power, under these circumstances, ever can prevent, to such an extent that the revenue of Britain has been diminifhed thereby to the amount of at least A HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS a-year; which the writer hereof undertakes to substantiate, if ever he fhall be properly called upon for that purpose.

Finally, and to close this long memorial, let it be adverted, that the difficulties the people labour under in those regions, owing to the injudicious coal tax, and a few other equally impolitic regulations, have excited there, a spirit for emigration, that ought not to be looked on with indifference; for the persons whom we fhall thus lose, are among the most uncorrupted in their morals, and

would be among the most industrious in the island, if they had it in their power. Whatever, therefore, is calculated to ameliorate their lot in life, ought to claim a particular degree of attention, not only from the mild philanthropist, but also from the enlightened statesman: and certainly, one of the first steps towards that amelioration, will be a removal of the coal duty. At present, they believe they are neglected by those in power; and that no hope of bettering their condition remains. Were this hope awakened, by a well timed attention, it might be productive of very happy effects.

It is seldom that a minister has it in his power to gratify the wishes of the people, by relieving them from an oppressive tax, while he by this means will at the same time augment the revenue. This singular case occurs in the present instance. I scarcely therefore can be persuaded that a person of such perspicuity of judgement as our present minister is, will hesitate one moment about granting the relief proposed. Thus will he deservedly conciliate the favour of thousands in the present day, and obtain the veneration of millions in future times.

CORRECTION.

The vegetable production described in p. 268 of this volume, under the name of a *pine* cone, having been seen by a gentleman who had long resided in New South Wales, he says it is a misnomer. That the pine of Norfolk island bears a real scaly cone, like the pines in Europe; but that this is the fruit of another tree, which resembles in size and habit the apple tree of Europe. The description is in all other respects, exact; only I may add, that the nuts adhere so firmly to the hard nucleus in the heart, that though one of them, whose shell is very thick, had been broken by a stroke, or fall, it did not quit its hold.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

By a letter received over land from St Petersburgh, two days ago, the Editor has the satisfaction to be informed, that Dr Pallas, the celebrated naturalist, has just obtained an order from her imperial majesty, to visit next summer the southern provinces of that vast empire, where he has not yet been; and he has been so very condescending as to make offer, in the most obliging manner, to have a particular eye to the Bee in his researches, and to forward hither every information that he thinks will prove new and interesting to the people in Britain. It will, therefore, be obliging in any of my readers, who have any particular objects, respecting which they wish for elucidations in those regions, to give notice of them to the Editor with their first convenience.

By the same letter notice has been received, that a particular account of all the different breeds of sheep that have been discovered in Russia, is now making out from Dr Pallas's notes, and under his inspection, to be transmitted for the Bee as soon as ready, accompanied with figures.

From Calcutta and Madras he has also received letters by the Dutton, which had left those places before the Bee, for last year, had reached them; but it must have arrived in a few weeks after the departure of that vessel. Several gentlemen there, informed my correspondents, that they only deferred sending communications till the Bee reached them, that they might the better judge of the kind of communications that would suit it. Thus slow are the returns from such distant paces.

From Pisa, Leghorn, and Naples, there are great complaints about the irregular transmission of parcels. Severals have been sent long ago that have not yet made their appear-

ance. From Cadiz some interruption has happened, and from Portugal an unusual defalcation of crop has so much diminished the trade, that no opportunities thither have occurred of late.

The readers of the Bee are respectfully informed, that in the course of next volume will be given an original table of gems, containing a scientific arrangement, and a distinct enumeration of all particulars respecting the qualities and peculiarities of each kind;—their analysis, value, &c. &c. by a gentleman who has long made that branch of natural history a particular study.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor has many apologies to make to his numerous correspondents for seeming inattention of late, which has been solily occasioned by a peculiar press of business on his hands at this time, which can scarcely be avoided. The great length of the paper on the coal duty, which he considered as of too much importance to be deferred; together with an intercalary number and index, have thrown nearly three weeks business into one. That being now nearly over, he will be enabled to bestow upon his correspondents the attention they so well merit at his hands.

Cosmopolitan's favours are received. The Editor has *for once*, deviated a little from his plan of avoiding subjects of the nature there treated; but he must still adhere to it in general. The writer he supposes will see every day that there is less and less reason to be alarmed about the subject he has chosen to treat.

The valuable communication by *Albionensis* is thankfully received, and shall appear in an early number of this work.

The fragment by *A. L.* has been too long delayed, it will be farther noticed soon.

The indulgence of *M.'M. M.* of *Astra*, of *Autor*, of a *Reader*, of *B.E.* of *P. H. N.* of *Anonymous*, of *Eutycbus*, of *A. Z. S.* and several others, whose communications are received, is requested till another opportunity.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26. 1792.

LETTER FROM ARCTICUS.

ON THE NIGHTINGALE AND OTHER BIRDS IN RUSSIA.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I TAKE up the pen at present to answer some queries in a paper on the nightingale, (Bee, vol. v. p. 122,) by your ingenious and learned correspondent Albanicus.

Albanicus, in the letter alluded to, mentions the following report, of Peter the Great "having, at considerable expence, introduced various singing birds into his gardens at Moscow and St Petersburg."

That, I presume, with the ingenious writer is a mistake, for the following reasons:

1*st*, There are no species of singing birds which winter with us, when at liberty to choose their quarters: nor indeed could their tender frame be able to resist the severity of the climate, if accidentally left behind;—in that case they must either perish, or contract such a rheum, as would spoil their music on the return of spring.

I have, to be sure, mentioned a *native singing bird* in another letter*; but he himself, I have added, is the only creature on earth enamoured of his note; and severely pays for his opinion. The rest only visit us like other summer travellers, and go home again in autumn, in which they are perfectly right. So that if Peter the Great had ever given himself the trouble to stock his gardens with exotic warblers, they would naturally have gone off with the rest on the approach of winter; and it is too much to suppose they would have returned again of their own accord. Indeed I can answer for the wisdom of their progeny, whatever the parents might have done; and the subjoined list of the Rufsian birds will convince you of the truth of my afsertion, where you will find only northern warblers of pafsage.

As to the nightingale, the *ostensible* subject of Albanicus's letter, (although there is another bird lugged in, head and ſhoulders, which seems to be the vulture of the poets to him.) Philomel, the sweetest of the feathered songsters, had no occasion for Peter's introduction; as ſhe seems to be perfectly at home here whilst ſhe stays, and most undoubtedly delighted the Rufsians with her music, many ages before their great civilizator was born.

I doubt if there is a country in the world, where the nightingale is either in greater vigour, song, or number, than in Rufsia, where it absolutely stuns us with the fullnefs of its note when in a cage; and

* The great grouse, an account of which will be afterwards given.

is even disagreeable at meals in the houses of the natives, where several are commonly kept in the hall, and all open their throats at once, so soon as the noise of knives, &c. sets them a-going; insomuch that a man must literally bawl to be heard by his next neighbour.

Since, then, Mr Editor, it is not high latitude which frightens Philomel from a country, how do you account for her never venturing to the north of the Tweed, after all the strong assurances you give us of the cultivation and planting in Scotland, the delight of that plaintive songstress, according to Albanicus, and other well informed naturalists?

That is a curious inquiry for the *philosophy of natural history*, and yet your late Edinburgh work is perfectly silent on the subject.

However, not to indulge the satiric Samuel Johnson as much in his grave as he was in his life, who would probably laugh more than he has talked, in his tomb, at such a collateral proof of his short-sighted remarks on Caledonia, I will explain the enigma, by pointing out a few causes which invite Philomel to make us an annual visit, whilst she neglects a country which has given birth to a Buchannan and a Thomson. The truth of the matter is, then, with regard to the nightingale, that she is not so much attracted by the high state of our cultivation, effected with a two inch plough, drawn by a little Finish horse; nor with the beauty of our bastard forests of aspine, birch, and fir, fit for little but fire wood, as with the three following circumstances, which offer irresistible temptation to soft billed birds.

The *first* is the uncommon *softnefs* of the damp soil; a defect which even the credulous cynic could not accuse Scotland of.

The *second*, a ſhort, but ardent summer.

And, *thirdly*, a great profusion of insects, the natural result of the other two.

Now, then, Mr Editor, if you wiſh to pofsefs the nightingale, you have only to remove a few degrees nearer the *pole*, where you will have the ground covered six months in the year with a cloth yard of frozen snow; and then, only let Caledonia be once more over-run with close natural forests, to prevent its drying during your ſhort summer, and you will be sure to abound, like us, in vermin, and soft billed birds, (who live on them,) and like us you may eat woodcocks, snipes, *&c.* in common at table, to the music of Philomel, our dinner choirister.

We boast another uncommon luxury, equally the effect of our happy climate, and which you may equally enjoy by giving Scotland the northern ketch hinted at above; that is, to have Philomel's music at all seasons, in our stove heated rooms, where flowers blow, and birds sing, all the year round. This advantage suggests a thought, which probably may account for the report that gave origin to this letter.

If Peter the Great first introduced into Rufsia a curious species of winter gardens that now exists, it will easily account for the story of exotic warblers; as they in fact not only live the whole year, in high spirits, and song, but even propagate their species on the spot, where Arctic rivals Asiatic luxury.

I fhall here subjoin an account of the winter garden in her imperial majesty's town palace, on the same floor with her superb gallery of pictures, the jewel room, and other curiosities, from a little work of Arcticus not yet printed.

Account of the winter gardens in Rufsia.

" The imitation of the summer atmosphere, and other summer appearances, are so exact in the winter garden of her imperial majesty, and of prince Potemkin, on a much larger scale at his house in the horse guards, that the artificial, almost rivals the natural season, whilst all is ice and snow out of doors. Indeed the deception is truly astonifhing, on finding yourself on gravel walks, bordered with trees, and a great variety of fhrubs and flowers blowing round you, and filling the air with their perfumes, whilst a multitude of birds, of various nations and plumage, are warbling on the spray, nay, even propagating their species, beguiled, like you, with the appearance of summer; with all this, the suffocating warm air of a hothouse, by no means conveys an idea of the climate breathed and felt there; for by means of ventilation and communication with the external air at pleasure, the air in these gardens, like that of our houses, is mild and agreeable like a fine summer's day. Besides these advantages, as we have a very bright, though a very feeble winter sun, from the reflection of the snow, this gay feathered mansion is illuminated with all his splendour, if not his heat; but as that necefsary principle steals unseen from other artificial sources, a stranger, if it was pofsible to convey him here un-

conscious of the season, would suppose himself basking in the sun, when in fact he is only baſking in his light; so difficult is it to separate the ideas of *bright sunſhine and heat*,—especially when a man feels both, and sees around him all the common effects of that benign planet,—such as verdant trees, flowers blowing, birds pairing, *&c.*

But nothing can give a better idea of this artificial summer and garden, than to say, that both European, American, and Asiatic birds, are deceived into propagation by it; for the loxia cardinalis, or Virginian nightingale*, the tringilla Angolensis, or Angola sparrow, with the tringilla amadava from the Brazils, have all had young there within these few years; and as to canaries, and European birds, they breed most readily. I ſhall here subjoin, as a curiosity, the list of the supply her imperial majesty has purchased from the famous London bird dealer, Brooks, this summer, with the prices paid for them. The list sent is the original wrote by Brooks himself, the same her majesty received and paid.

On the winter food of the nightingale in Ruſsia.

I have still to mention the winter food of the nightingale in Ruſsia, when the swarm of summer insects are no more. That consists of dried ants eggs, and cockroaches, (blatta,) which the hot cottages of the peasants ever furniſh, especially as every one bakes his own bread at home. It will likewise be equal-

* The keeper of the empreſs's winter garden, told your correspondent, that the *loxia cardinalis* destroyed her own young, although I think that the rats are more likely to have done it, which often get into that enchanted place.

ly in its place, and interesting to the curious, to give the simple stratagem by which the peasant procures a stock of ants eggs during the summer, for the winter market,— as he does it by obliging the little industrious insect itself, to separate them from the quantity of hetrogeneous matter with which they are mixed in its hillock or nest.

The Rufsian ſhepherd ſhapes out a spot about two or three yards square, on some sequestered piece of bare beaten ground, commonly a bye road; and surroundsit with a wet ditch, two or three inches broad, and an inch or two deep. Into the centre of this little formican fort, he then brings a whole hillock, with all its contents, and scatters it about, laying here and there, (on spots kept clean for the purpose,) little heaps of small fir branches, under which the whole diminutive community hasten to conceal their eggs, with all the industry so well remarked by Solomon, as the only hiding places which the cruel wet ditch permits them to reach with their precious deposit.

By this simple stratagem, the lazy ſhepherd, when he has lolled his hour out on the adjoining turf, finds the whole of the insect treasure under the fir branches, carefully separated from all extraneous substances, and fit for market, either freſh or dried, according to the season, where he sells them by measure, to the numerous amateurs of the nightingale.

I ſhall finiſh this letter by observing, that Albanicus's description of the Engliſh nightingale, agrees with the Rufsian variety, *except in the tip of red*

on the wings and tail, which either does not obtain at all, or is so faint, as to escape my observation, not only in the living bird, but in a couple of fine stuffed specimens now before me, and which I can handle and examine more closely, than the delicate original will permit.

You will find here annexed, a catalogue of Rusian birds*, which includes the whole found in the provinces conquered from the Swedes in which we live; and as those who winter with us, and who alone with propriety can be called natives, are marked with an asterisk, it will perfectly answer the purpose of my letter, which had principally for its object, to point out the singing birds of this district, together with the rest of our feathered inhabitants; and to note, which are, and are not, birds of passage: at the same time, I have made it pretty evident, that the entomologic attractions of Rusia must have enticed the nightingale, many ages before Peter the great was born.

I send you, likewise, according to my promise, in this letter, Brooks's note of exotic birds, sold to the empress this summer, which you may publish if you think it worth while. It contains also some other animals she purchased at the same time; and paid for the whole 5600 rubles.

ARCTICUS.

* This catalogue must be interesting to your readers who are lovers of ornithology, as it is the first full and correct list ever published, composed from my own ample collection of Rusian birds, the rest added with Dr Pallas's assistance.

A Catalogue of RUSSIAN BIRDS which frequent the country round St Peterſburg.*

Those that are marked thus * remain the whole year.

LINNÆUS.	PENANT.
ACCIPITRES.	*RAPACIOUS.*
1 FALCO Chrysætos - -	Golden eagle
2 Palumbarius -	Goshawk
3 Milvus - -	Kite
4 Buteo - - -	Buzzard
5 Subbuteo - -	Hobby
6 Nisus - - -	Sparrow hawk
7 Paſserinus - -	Merlin
8 STRIX * Bubo - - -	Eagle owl
9 * Flammea -	White owl
10 * Ulula - -	Brown owl
11 * Paſserina - -	Little owl
12 Otus - - -	Eared owl
PICÆ.	*PIES.*
13 LANIUS Excubitor - -	Great Shrike
14 CORVUS Corax - - -	Raven
15 * Cornix - -	Hooded crow
16 * Monedula - -	Jack daw
17 * Pica - - -	Magpie
18 Glandarius - -	Jay
19 Infaustus - -	Little jay
20 Coriocatactes -	Nut patch
21 ORIOLUS Galbula - -	Oriole or golden thruſh
22 CUCULUS Canorus - -	Cuckoo
23 JYNX Torquilla - -	Wry neck
24 PICUS * Viridis - - -	Green wood pecker
25 Martius - - -	Black wood pecker
26 Varius *major* -	Great spotted wood pecker

* The list of birds, &c. sent to Ruſsia by Mr Brooks, will perhaps be given in some future number of this work.

Linnæus.	Penant.
27 Picus Varius *minor* -	Small spotted wood pecker
28 * Tridactylus -	Three toed wood pecker
29 Sitta Europea - - -	Wood cracker or nut hatch
Gallinæ.	*Gallinaceous.*
30 Tetrao * Urogallus -	Great, or wood grous
31 * Tetrix - - -	Black game
32 * Lagopus - -	Ptarmigan
33 * Bonasia - -	Gelinotte
34 Perdrix - - -	Partridge
35 Coturnix - -	Quail
36 Columba Oenas - -	Common pigeon
37 Palumbus - -	Ring dove
Passeres.	*Passerine.*
38 Aluda Arvensis - -	Sky lark
39 Arborea - -	Wood lark
40 Turdus Viscivorus - -	Thrush
41 Pilaris - - -	Fieldfare]
42 Iliacus - - -	Redwing
43 Merula - - -	Blackbird
44 * Cinclus - -	Water ouzel
45 Ampelis Garrulus - -	Chatterer
46 Loxia Coccothraustes -	Gross beak
47 * Enucleator -	Fine gross beak
48 * Curvirostra -	Crossbill
49 * Pyrrhula - -	Bullfinch
50 Chloris - - -	Greenfinch
51 Emberiza Miliaria - -	Common bunting
52 * Citrinella - -	Yellow bunting
53 * Nivalis - - -	Snow bunting
54 Fringilla Carduelis -	Goldfinch
55 Cœlabs - - -	Chaffinch
56 * Domestica - -	Common sparrow
57 Spinus - - -	Siskin
58 * Linaria - -	Lesser red headed linnet

LINNÆUS.	PENANT.
59 MOTACILLA Alba - -	White wagtail
60 Flava - - -	Yellow wagtail
61 Luscinia - -	Nightingale
62 Phœnicurus - -	Red start
63 Rubecola - -	Red breast
64 Hippolais - - -	Petty chaps
65 Trochilus - -	Yellow warbler
66 Salicaria - - -	Sedge warbler
67 PARUS * Major - - -	Great titmouse
68 * Cœruleus - -	Blue titmouse
69 * Ater - -	Cole titmouse
70 HIRUNDO Rustica - -	Chimney swallow
71 Urbica - -	Martin
72 Apus - - -	Swift
73 CAPRIMULGUS Europeus -	Goat sucker
GRALLÆ.	*WADERS.*
74 ARDEA Major - - -	Male heron
75 Cinerea - -	Female heron
76 Stellaris - -	Bittern
77 SCOLOPAX Arquata -	Curlew
78 Phæopus - -	Whimbrel
79 Rusticola - -	Woodcock
80 Ægocephala -	Godwit
81 Limosa - -	Lesser godwit
82 Glottis - -	Green shank
83 Calidris - -	Red shank
84 Alpina - -	Black breast
85 Gallinago -	Common snipe
86 Gallinula -	Jack snipe
87 TRINGA Pugnax - -	Ruff
88 Vanellus - -	Lapwing
89 Ochropus -	Green sand piper
90 Cinclus - -	Purre

LINNÆUS.	PENANT.
91 CHARADRIUS Apricarius	Black breasted plover
92 Pluvialis - -	Golden plover
93 Hiaticula -	Ringed plover
94 HOEMATOPUS Ostralegus	Oyster catcher
95 RALLUS Crex - -	Land rail
96 Aquatica - -	Water rail
ANSERES.	*WEB-FOOTED.*
97 FULICA Atra - -	Coot
98 COLYMBUS Cristatus -	Great crested grebe
99 Auritus - -	Eared grebe
100 Arcticus -	Northern diver
101 Stellatus - -	Speckled diver
102 LARUS Canus -	Common gull
103 Tridactylus -	Three toed gull
104 STERNA Hirunda - -	Great tern
105 MERGUS * Merganser -	Goosander
106 Albellus -	Smew
107 ANSER Mansuelus - -	Bean goose
108 ANAS Erythropus mas	Bernacle (scarce)
109 Erythropus fem.	White fronted goose(scarce)
110 Fusca - -	Velvet duck (very scarce)
111 Fuligula - .	Tufted duck
112 Clangula - -	Golden eye
113 Boschas -	Mallard
114 Clypeata - -	Shoveler
115 Acuta - -	Pintail
116 * Hymatis vel glacialis	Long tailed duck
117 Ferina - -	Pochard
118 Strepera -	Gadwall
119 Crecca -	Teal
120 Querquedula -	Garganey

In all 120 which frequent this province, and only 26 are natives, or which pafs both winter and summer here.

THE TRAVELLER. No IV.

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF J. W. SPENCER:

Continued from p. 162.

Altorff, Switzerland.

SOME gloomy philosophers maintain, that the life of man is one continued scene of wearineſs, vexation, and disappointment; and even the royal aphorist has said, that "all is vanity and vexation of spirit." This man certainly never knew the pleasures which a sense of the enjoyment of liberty confers upon the minds of innocent virtuous people, or he could not have said so. Had he travelled two days with my honest landlord, William Schutz of Gersaw, through this part of Switzerland, he would have altered his tone. Schutz, though now upwards of seventy years of age, has accompanied me with a warm enthusiasm of mind, that, among old paced statesmen, would be deemed little ſhort of insanity in a person of twenty-five years of age only, whose soul was still glowing with the benign delirium of youthful inexperience. Neither sorrow nor vexation can find room to lodge within his bosom. All his faculties have been continually alive since we left his native home, to impreſs me with the same enthusiastic ardour with himself. He saw his efforts have not been entirely in vain; and his happineſs, I have every reason to believe, has been without alloy.

Ever since I entered Switzerland, I have begun to doubt, whether the wide extension of literature

by means of printing, be as necefsary for promoting the happinefs of mankind, as I had formerly believed undeniable. I here find, in fact, a people who have scarcely any knowledge of letters; who seldom see a printed book; but who are kind, beneficent, candid, and upright in their dealings, almost beyond example in other parts of the world. They are, indeed, rude in their appearance, and deficient in external forms of politenefs; but they pofsefs the efsentials in a more eminent degree than any other people with whom I have yet conversed; and in the bosom of their families, they enjoy a peaceful tranquillity I have in vain looked for elsewhere. The knowledge of *good* and *evil*, is the fruit of the same tree; and whoever tastes the *first*, must as inevitably partake of the *last*; and I am inclined to think the *evil* always preponderates. The heart is easily seduced by vivid pictures of scenes that captivate the imagination; and writers who are to live by the sale of their works, will too often endeavour to captivate the fancy of their readers, at the expence of their morals. Thus do the numerous writings which are difseminated over the rest of Europe, tend in many cases to propagate error instead of truth; and always to corrupt the heart, and debase the morals of the people. Here, no such thing prevails; the understandings of the people are indeed little informed, but their hearts are upright; their views are limited, but their intention is always pure.

In this particular neighbourhood, as well as in many other parts of Switzerland, however, the

people are much better informed in respect to the important transactions in their own country, than any where else that I have ever been. This knowledge is not obtained by means of books; but by pictures, and traditionary histories connected with these, handed down from father to son, with the most faithful punctuality. There is not a child of ten years old, in those districts I have lately visited, who does not know the whole history of the circumstances that led to the establiſhment of the Helvetic liberties; or the glorious battles that were fought and won by their predeceſsors, in defence of that freedom which they then had not, and now enjoy, with as much accuracy as the best informed historian could narrate it. Their youthful minds thus catch the ardour of freedom at an early period; which is afterwards preserved by a frequent repetition of the same, which is the only historical subject that engroſses their attention. Whoever mixes among the people, must learn these incidents with the most perfect accuracy; though, as to the history of other nations, you scarcely hear any more than if they had never existed.

The story of William Tell is well known even in other parts of the world; for, like the history of Joseph and his brethern, it can never fail to prove interesting to all who hear it. It ought to afford a leſson to all sovereigns, and to every person intrusted with power, that never ſhould be forgotten. The bow may be bent to a certain degree without much injury; but if it be puſhed farther, it will

certainly break, and often prove destructive to the person who tried to overstrain it.

In the fourteenth century, when this part of Switzerland was an apanage of the counts of Harpsburg, then become emperors of Germany, these distant provinces were put under the government of subordinate delegates, called *baillies*, who exercised their power with the most despotic authority. The people made remonstrances to the emperor; but in vain. The baillies, irritated by these remonstrances, and confident of being supported by the court, became more insolent and oppressive than before. Among these Gesler, baillie of Schweitz, a man of ferocious manners, and rapacious disposition, rendered himself singularly obnoxious by the extravagance of his oppressions. Among other acts of despotism, he planted a pike in the middle of the market place of the village, (for it was then no more,) of Altorff, where I now sit; upon the top of which he placed his bonnet; and, like Nebuchadnezzar of old, he commanded that all persons who passed it, should fall down and worship it. This degree of insolence, in a man lately raised to power, among a people who had been accustomed to enjoy a great degree of freedom, excited the highest indignation. Three men of the provinces of Schweitz, Underwald, and Ury, who had received, each, personal indignities from the overbearing Gesler, resolved to exert every effort in their power to free themselves and countrymen from this intolerable thraldom. Their names are here repeated by every child as soon as it can lisp. They were

Walter Furst of Altorff, *Warnier Stauffacher* of Schweitz, and *Ernest du Melchthal* of Underwald. These three men, of determined intrepidity, and much respected in the different districts to which they belonged, having privately communicated their sentiments to each other, met together, in summer 1307, in a small meadow called *Grutlin*, in the district of *Uri*, where they concerted the plan of a general insurrection of the three cantons, which ſhould take place on the first day of January 1308; and each retired to their several districts, to communicate the plan, in *confidence*, to such as they could trust, and prepare matters for the great enterprise intended.

In the mean while, William Tell, a young man of great firmneſs of mind, regardleſs of the insolent order of Gesler, paſsed the pike, without paying obeisance to the ridiculous emblem of authority on the top of it. Gesler, informed of this piece of disrespect, condemned Tell, by way of puniſhment, to cleave, with an arrow, an apple placed on the head of his son, standing at a considerable distance from him, in the market place now before me. Tell, though an expert archer, terrified at the danger his son would run in such a situation, rather chose to submit to the puniſhment of death, himself, than attempt it. But Gesler told him, that if he refused to do it, both his son and himself ſhould be hanged together. In this extremity, Tell was compelled to try his ſkill. He was so fortunate as to split the apple without hurting his son. The ſhouts of the people, who rejoiced at this good fortune, served only to irritate Gesler the more. He observed that Tell had another arrow, and aſked what use he intended to make of

it, when, in the delirium of rage, which animated him, Tell answered with firmnefs, "wretch! (said he,) if I had killed my son, this arrow fhould have been steeped in your heart's blood!" This was a crime of too high nature to be forgiven. Tell was immediately seized, and condemned to suffer perpetual imprisonment in the castle of *Kufsnacht*. Gesler would not even lose sight of him till he was safely lodged there. He was carried bound to *Fluellin*, from whence they were to go by water to *Kufsnacht*, in the province of Schweitz; but on their pafsage, one of those tempests so common on this lake at that time of the year, (the 18th of November,) arose; and they were in the greatest danger of being all swallowed up by the waves. In this extremity, one of the servants of Gesler, who knew that Tell was an expert mariner, proposed that he fhould be unbound to give them his afsistance. The advice was adopted. Tell exerted himself as much as pofsible for their common preservation; and taking the helm, gave directions to the rowers how to proceed. He observed that his bow and arrows had been put into the stern of the boat; and being driven near a projecting head land, between Siziken and Brunen, where the sea ran very high, he gave orders to the rowers to exert all their force, and keep steady at their pull, till they fhould weather it; then keeping as close to the lee fhore as pofsible, and bringing the boat thus as near the rock as he could. No sooner did the prow of the boat get past the rock, than suddenly turning the helm, the stern came very near the rock, when, watching

the favourable moment, he snatched up his bow and arrows, and leaped on ſhore. By the effort of his spring, the boat was puſhed off; and he instantly scrambled up among the rocks, and concealed himself among the trees, so as not to be within the reach of any miſsile weapon, had they attempted it. The boat, with great difficulty, reached Brunen, where the governor landed. From thence he was to go to Kuſsnacht, along the valley of Schweitz. Tell knew, that in the route he would take, he must of neceſsity paſs a narrow defile. To this defile he hastened by another route, so as to be there before him; and concealing himself among the trees, he waited with patience till Gesler with his suite arrived. There, taking a true aim, he ſhot him through the heart; and leaving his attendants to make the best of their dying master they could, he made his escape without being perceived. He went immediately to *Stauffacher*, one of the three jurors, told what he had done, and endeavoured to prevail upon him to adopt that moment for the insurrection; but this man, cool as well as determined, did not think it proper to precipitate matters prematurely. They continued quiet till the day appointed; and though the secret must have been known to most of the heads of the families of the three districts, it was not even suspected by any of the ruling powers till the very day concerted; when the whole three provinces rose, to a man, and proceeded in a body to their governors. Gesler being already dead, and the others leſs obnoxious, the people contented themselves with telling them, that they must leave the country immediately,

and conducting them to the confines of the state, without offering any violence, they ordered them never more to return, under the severest penalties. The vain efforts that the house of Austria made, to recover the poſseſsion of these barren provinces, and the unparalleled exertions that the untrained boors of a rustic district made to preserve their freedom, justly entitle the annals of Switzerland, at that period, to the admiration of mankind.

Since the liberties of the Helvetic body have been secured, the memory of the facts above narrated have been preserved by the most lasting memorials. In the year 1388, the canton of *Uri* erected a chapel on the rock where Tell escaped from the boat, which is preserved with the utmost care till this day. One hundred and forty persons, who had known the hero himself, aſsisted at its foundation. I visited this temple, sacred to freedom, with the sentiments of veneration it naturely inspires. I contemplated with great pleasure, the paintings commemorative of these transactions, which are executed in a good stile, and well preserved. It is these paintings, which are repeated in many other places in Switzerland, that speak to the eyes of the most illiterate, which tend so effectually to preserve the memory of these important transactions. Another temple was lately erected, still more spacious than that I have seen, at the place where Gesler fell: but that I had not time to visit. A good statue of Tell, leading his son by the hand, stands in the market place of Altorff now before me, on the very spot where he stood when he ſhot the arrow; and a beautiful

isolated tower occupies the spot where his son was placed. There is scarcely a town in Switzerland in which there are not some public monuments erected to commemorate these events. And as most of them consist of either paintings, or *bas reliefs*, tolerably well executed, they make a much deeper impreſsion on youthful minds, which have been previously awakened to attend to them, by the animated, though simple narratives of these events, by their parents round the social fire, than any historic narrative, drily made, could afford. To this cause must be ascribed that strong enthusiasm for liberty, which hath ever so conspicuously marked the character of the Swiſs; and it certainly is to the recollection of the animating pleasure they all have felt from these sensations in their early youth, which they no longer experience in foreign countries, that we must ascribe that ardent desire to revisit their native country, which usually seizes the Swiſs, when they have been long absent from it.—Happy people! happy in the innocence which the want of affluence so naturally inspires! Long may the vices which wealth engenders, be baniſhed from thy humble abodes! and mayest thou never experience that giddy intoxication, which too much prosperity with such inevitable certainty engenders, the fatal forerunner of misfortune!

POSITIONS TO BE EXAMINED.

BY THE LATE DR FRANKLIN.

1. All food, or subsistence for mankind, arises from the earth or waters.

2. Necessaries of life that are not foods, and all other conveniencies, have their value estimated by the proportion of food consumed while we are employed in procuring them.

3. A small people, with a large territory, may subsist on the productions of nature, with no other labour than that of gathering the vegetables and catching the animals.

4. A large people, with a small territory, find these insufficient; and, to subsist, must labour the earth, to make it produce greater quantities of vegetable food, suitable for the nourishment of men, and of the animals they intend to eat.

5. From this labour arises a great increase of vegetable and animal food, and of materials for clothing; as flax, wool, silk, &c. The superfluity of these is wealth. With this wealth we pay for the labour employed in building our houses, cities, &c. which are therefore only subsistence thus metamorphosed.

6. Manufactures are only another shape into which so much provisions and subsistence are turned, as were in value equal to the manufactures produced. This appears from hence, that the manufacturer does not, in fact, obtain from the employer, for his labour, more than a mere subsistence, including rai-

ment, fuel, and shelter; all which derive their value from the provisions consumed in procuring them.

7. The produce of the earth, thus converted into manufactures, may be more easily carried to distant markets than before such conversion.

8. Fair commerce is where equal values are exchanged for equal, the expence of transport included. Thus, of it costs A in England as much labour and charge to raise a bushel of wheat, as it costs B in France to produce four gallons of wine, then are four gallons of wine the fair exchange for a bushel of wheat, A and B meeting at half distance with their commodities to make the exchange. The advantage of this fair commerce is, that each party increases the number of his enjoyments, having, instead of wheat alone, or wine alone, the use of both wheat and wine.

9. Where the labour and expence of producing both commodities are known to both parties, bargains will generally be fair and equal. Where they are known to one party only, bargains will often be unequal, knowledge taking its advantage of ignorance.

10. Thus he that carries 1000 bushels of wheat abroad to sell, may not probably obtain so great a profit thereon, as if he had first turned the wheat into manufactures, by subsisting therewith the workmen while producing those manufactures, since there are many expediting and facilitating methods of working, not generally known; and strangers to the manufactures, though they know pretty well the expence of raising wheat, are unacquainted with

those ſhort methods of working; and thence, being apt to suppose more labour employed in the manufactures than there really is, are more easily imposed on in their value, and induced to allow more for them than they are honestly worth.

11. Thus the advantage of having manufactures in a country, does not consist, as is commonly supposed, in their highly advancing the value of rough materials, of which they are formed; since, though six pennyworth of flax may be worth twenty ſhillings when worked into lace, yet the very cause of its being worth twenty ſhillings, is, that, besides the flax, it has cost nineteen ſhillings and sixpence in subsistence to the manufacturer. But the advantage of manufactures is, that under their ſhape, provisions may be more easily carried to a foreign market; and by their means our traders may more easily cheat strangers. Few, where it is not made, are judges of the value of lace. The importer may demand forty, and pehaps get thirty ſhillings for that which cost him but twenty.

12. Finally, there seem to be but three ways for a nation to acquire wealth. The first is by war, as the Romans did, in plundering their conquered neighbours; this is robbery.—The second by commerce, which is generally cheating.—The third by agriculture, the only honest way; wherein man receives a real increase of the seed thrown into the ground, in a kind of continual miracle, wrought by the hand of God in his favour, as a reward for his innocent life and his virtuous industry.

B. FRANKLIN.

ASTERIA ROCKING THE CRADLE.

For the Bee.

'Tis fair Asteria's fond employ,
To rock yon little restless boy;
That cradle in its small domains,
Oh, what a treasure it contains!

Not all Arabia's spicy store,
Not all Golconda's glitt'ring ore,
Elysian fields, nor Eden's grove,
Could buy that little restless love.

Sweet babe, the fair Asteria cries!
Sweet babe! the list'ning muse replies;
While here a faithful guard we keep,
Sweet babe, enjoy the honied sleep.

Now hush the sob, and hush the sighs,
Lo! softest slumbers close his eyes;
And here a faithful guard we keep,
Sweet babe, enjoy the honied sleep.

Ere yon bright orb, that rules the sky,
Beam'd on the lovely infant's eye;
And ere it whimper'd, ere it wept,
Close in the silent womb it slept.

And who can tell the bitter smart,
That pierc'd Asteria's trembling heart;
Yet sure there's magic in that boy,
That wakes the soft parental joy.

And still Asteria's languid face,
Wears the pale primrose' sickly grace;
Yet o'er that face, what brilliant hues
Can her beloved babe diffuse!

How sweet beside the cradle's brink,
In musing state to sit and think,
No daisied bank, no green hill's side,
So shines in nature's decent pride.

Pleas'd o'er the cradle's head to gaze;
A smile bedecks Asteria's face;
How ev'ry feature charms her sight,
How ev'ry motion wakes delight!

What rising beauties there ſhe views,
The rosy lip, the poliſh'd nose,
The slender eyebrow budding thin,
The velvet cheek, the dimpling chin.

Anon ſhe views the sparkling eye,
The lifted hand, the tuneful cry,
And hast'ning on through years to come,
She traces out his future doom.

"Haply he'll plead religion's cause,
"Or weep o'er freedom's bleeding laws;
"Or feel the poet's sacred rage,
"Or trace the dark historic page."

Nor is so sweet the sweetest gale,
That breathes acroſs the silent vale
From myrtle grove, or garden's bloom,
As is thy sweeter breath's perfume.

At length ſhe breathes the pious pray'r,
"Great God! Oh! make my child thy care,
"And may his future actions be
"Sacred to virtue, and to thee.

"Whatever fortune then betide,
"Thou ſhalt his portion still abide;
"And when his course of life is run,
"Oh! let him wear a never withering crown."

TO THE FAIR.

Though all that's charming deck the face,
 The glowing cheek, the azure eye,
Time kills the fair, they fade apace,
 And soon forgot they droop and die.

But where the throbbing bosom glows,
 With sacred truth's unsullied pow'r;
There harmleſs wastes the vermil rose,
 There honour braves the stealing hour.

TRAVELLING MEMORANDUMS BY LORD GARDENSTONE.

Rubens and Shakespeare compared.

Antwerp.

Sept. 6. This day we arrived at Antwerp.—The town presents an appearance of the broken or decayed fragments of a city, once great and opulent.—It retains nothing of its ancient grandeur, but momuments and traces of superstition.—We saw a most fantastical procefsion here, on the supposed birth-day of the virgin Mary.—The cathedral has certainly one of the noblest spires in Europe.—In this, and in other churches, and religious houses, we see, at their altars, and in their chapels, many pillars and ornaments of marble, which are, in a high degree, rich and beautiful.—Among the prodigious mafs of paintings in those ancient buildings, there is little or nothing excellent, but the works of Rubens and Vandyke, and a few paintings by one or two others of lefs note;—the rest are, for the most part, tawdry, or glaring pieces, intended to represent the mysterious, unintelligible, or supernatural points of catholic faith, such as the incarnation, the resurrection, the ascension, purgatory, afsumption of the blefsed virgin, *&c. &c.*

When we contemplate the works of a great genius, in a heap of ordinary paintings, it resembles a perusal of Shakespeare's plays, intermixed with a promiscuous and voluminous collection of modern dramas.—Rubens, like Shakespeare, is a studious master of nature, which he never forsakes;—though, by the force of a wonderful genius, he is able to heighten and embellifh his representations of it, so as to present the appearance of supernatural objects. —This observation is singularly applicable to his famous

painting of the holy family, in which he has presented seven figures done from his own family.—This painting is in the church of St James.—He has, by force of genius, infused into the various and beautiful features of those figures, and particularly into the grace, the purity, the smiling beauty, and innocence of the child, such a brightneſs and perfection, as to excite in our minds an idea of divine nature, blended with the human.—In his picture of St Theresa, in the church of Chausen, making interceſsion to an apparition of our Saviour, he represents the souls in purgatory by human faces, in which the sensation of affliction and dismay are mixed with devotion and hope.—The genuine characters of human nature are expreſsed, varied, and heightened, by the talents of the painter, so as, in a strange manner, to convey into our minds an idea of a future mysterious state of penitence, trial, and purgation.—In the same way, he preserves the characters of human nature in all his paintings of supernatural objects; when, as Shakespeare expreſses it, *his imagination bodies forth the forms of things unknown.*—It is thus also that Shakespeare sets before us, in his wonderful poetical paintings, the forms of supernatural objects.—His descriptions of witches and fairies, have a strange resemblance to human character and vulgar opinion.—I cannot forbear to set down some pictures, even of the heathen gods, which seem to us natural, by a resemblance to objects of our knowledge.—Thus Hamlet, in the fine description of his father,—

> An eye like Mars! the front of Jove himself!
> A station like the herald Mercury,
> New lighted on a heaven kiſsing hill.

In Romeo's gallant fancy, to describe his beautiful mis-

trefs, seated at midnight in a lighted gallery above him, he introduces this particular allusion:

> For thou art as glorious to my sight,
> As is the winged mefsenger from Jove,
> To th' upturn'd wond'ring eyes of mortals;
> When he bestrides the lazy pacing clouds,
> And sails upon the bosom of the air.

Besides these pictures of Rubens already mentioned, I have seen some others, which are, in my opinion, most admirable, and of which the colours are in the highest beauty and preservation. Among these I reckon the descent from the crofs, and the afsumption of the virgin. No power of genius can make the fable of a woman, ascending bodily to heaven, with angels hovering round her; or her coronation in heaven by the holy trinity, objects of nature or credit. But the virgin's figure in the afsumption is charming, and the devout amazement of the spectators is natural to those happy mortals who have faith enough to believe the fact.

The erection of the crofs in the church of St Walbourgh, and the adoration of the magi in the church of St Michael, I rank among the paintings of highest merit. In this last church there is a piece of statuary intended to represent *eternity*. My author of the little tour, calls it an *amazingly fine piece*. For my part, I think the idea is amazingly absurd; and the execution, though fine, is not happy. It conveys an imprefsion of calm and serious, in place of wild and bewildered contemplation *.

Though I admire Vandyke's paintings, they do not strike me as works of genius equal to those of Rubens. This may be from my want of just taste, or sufficient knowledge.

* "In thy immensity all thought is lost. Fancy gives over its flight; wearied imagination spends itself in vain."

SHAFTSBURY.

In a church, the name I have forgot, there is a picture of Rubens justly admired, which represents the dead body of Christ in Joseph's arms; and in the Recollets, his picture of the crucifixion between two thieves, is a capital piece.

In Antwerp there are several large magazines of paintings for sale; in one of which I purchased four pieces by Tenier, and one by Ostade. They cost me twenty-eight louis d'ors. I think they are originals, but I may be deceived. To me they are pleasing and humourous paintings. I am curious to know the opinions of connoifseurs, though resolved to be pleased however they decide: *de gustibus non disputandum.* Rembrandt's mother, in this collection, appears to me a piece of singular excellence. It is flesh and blood! with admirable features of real life and character, upon canvas! The price is L. 300. If I thought myself adequately rich, I would pay down the money, with the hazard of being ridiculed by connoisseurs.

Dusseldorp.

Sept. 22. This day, on our arrival, we visited, with great pleasure, the elector Palatine's gallery of paintings. They fill five spacious apartments, and may be divided into three clafses; the Flemish, and the Italian, (which are admirable,) and a promiscuous collection, destitute of genius, though, in worse company, they might make a tolerable figure.

Such collections afford excellent amusement, in proportion to our taste and fancy; but after all, the best governments are those which encourage useful industry and the arts, which promote the increase and happinefs of mankind. I wish that I could find a German prince, who, in in place of an uninhabited palace of paintings, shall shew me a gallery of elegant manufactories, such as the mer-

chants of Lyons exhibit; and I wish that they would leave those magnificent, but costly works of genius, to great states and monarchs, who have superfluous revenues, and who can gratify the highest vanity without oppression. One apartment of this palace is filled with pieces which are said to be the works of my favourite Rubens, the Shakespeare of Flemish painters. Many of them are genuine and charming. His picture of the last judgement, is exquisite, beyond expression, or description. The various joyous faces, and happy figures of those who rise to be saved, contrasted with the wretched contortions of those who sink to be damned, display all the powers of superior genius. The old devil seizes two fine wenches, struggling hard to escape his clutches, while, at the same time, he is kicking a German baron before him over the precipice of perdition. This devil is an object perfectly curious; a wild, wasted, graceless figure! He personifies the rich description of our heroic poet Milton, in those wonderful emphatic lines:

> ———Round he throws his baleful eyes,
> Which witness'd huge affliction and dismay,
> Mix'd with obdurate pride, and stedfast hate.

But there is a distinction to be observed between the ideas of the poet and the painter. In Milton, the devil was newly fallen

> ————He above the rest,
> In shape and gesture proudly eminent,
> Stood like a tower; his form had not yet lost
> All her original brightness, nor appear'd
> *Less then archangel ruin'd.*

But, in Rubens, he is an old desperate reprobate, who is supposed to have existed to the time of the last judgement; a very uncertain period. The painter has also re-

presented him with that archnefs ascribed by Milton to death, who, he says,

Grinn'd horrible, a ghastly smile.

I flatter myself that these remarks will not be disagreeable to critics of the sterling stamp. Before I close this uncommon topic, I cannot help observing, that Shakespeare infuses into his very wicked characters, for the most part, a singular kind of pleasantry. Iago is exceedingly droll. Richard III. is a great wit; and the bastard, in king Lear, has an extraordinary measure of ſhrewdneſs and profligate humour. Old Hamlet, indeed, is penitent; and Macbeth discovers a transient contrition; but, to make up for this, the ſhe-devil, his queen, defeats all his scruples, by turning them into derision. I now return to Rubens.

The faces of some of the damned are strongly expreſsive of Shakespeare's significant idea, that, "to be furious, is to be frighted out of fear." Such similarities, in the sublime of poetry and painting, may be traced in various works of genius.

The portraits of the second wife, and the mistreſs of Rubens make another specimen of superior ability and genuine humour. The wife is a picture of lovely decent modesty; the mistreſs, of bewitching wantonneſs and levity.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The rhapsody of the *Country Domine* is received with the corrections, and ſhall have a place when a spare corner offers.

The favour of *A. X.* is received. This is, he thinks; the second copy of it.

The lines transmitted by *Alamira* are not fit to appear before the severe eye of the public; though they may please the parties concerned in private, where they ſhould be kept.

The continuation of *Trader Political* is received. It is hoped this will be concluded in the present volume.

The lines by *Arno* are received, and ſhall appear in an early number of his work.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

Nov. 21. 1792.

FOREIGN.

France.

SINCE our last the armies of France on the north, have met with uninterrupted succeſs. Custine has carried Mentz and Franckfort, which he has laid under contribution; and Dumourier, after a succeſsion of ſkirmiſhes for several days gained a more decisive victory on the 6th near to Mons, which city capitulated to him on the 7th. Bruſsels is now supposed to be in great danger; but the duke de Saxe Teschen, who now commands in room of the disgraced duke of Brunswick, is determined, it is said, to dispute every inch of ground, and now occupies a strong post within six miles of Bruſsels.

In Savoy nothing has been done since the agreement took place between the government of Geneva and Montesquiou. This agreement has given great umbrage to the executive powers in France, who have ordered Montesquiou home to answer for his conduct.

In the Mediterranean the French arms are still triumphant. A flag of truce, with a boat's company, having been sent on ſhore by admiral Truguet, to summon the small place of Onaglia to surrender, was fired upon, and some of them killed; on which he immediately attacked the place, carried, pillaged, and burnt it.

Custine has denounced *Kellerman* in the National Convention. *Kellerman* has accused *Custine* of ignorance. In the mean time Kellerman is deprived of his command, and ordered to appear at the bar of the National Convention to answer to the charges brought against him.

Marat has been obliged to abscond.

National Convention.

October 29. A report was read by Rolland the minister for the home department, in obedience to a decree of the 28th, enjoining him to give in an account in three days of the state of Paris, of the obstacles which impeded the execution of the laws in that city,

and of the means which ought to be pursued to remove them.

In this memorial, which was of considerable length, Roland adverts first to the Commons, and gives a view of the depredations committed by some of their commifsioners. At Senlis, two of these commifsioners had carried away the silver plate belonging to the hospital and the superior;--they brought to Paris two administrators, robbed them of their money, and afterwards sent them away without giving them a copy of the proceedings against them. At Chantilly, they seized on a large quantity of cloaths, hunting accoutrements, lace, and saddles, ornamented with gold and silver. At the hotel de Coigni, they carried away a great number of matrefses. The prisoners brought from Orleans had a great deal of property upon them; and one of them, De Lefsaert, had about him a great number of valuable effects and bills of exchange; but of these the Commons never gave any account, notwithstanding repeated requisitions from the minister. De Septeuil had at his house 34,000l. in specie, afsignats, watches, and other valuables; of these also the Commons never gave any account. From the *Hotel des invalides*, one of the commifsioners carried away whatever he thought proper. The orders of the minister, forbidding any thing to be removed in this manner, were treated with contempt, and abusive language was thrown out against those persons whom he sent to enforce them. Some malevolent emifsaries had propagated a report that a great number of arms were deposited under the dome of the *Hospital des Invalides*. The two neighbouring sections decreed, that the earth fhould be dug to the depth of twenty-five feet to search for them. The minister having received intelligence of this design, wifhed to prevent a measure which was likely to endanger the building.—His commands, however, were disobeyed. When he insisted on having them executed, he was threatened with an insurrection. The search was made, and the mistaken citizens found nothing but fhame. Another section, that of the *Pantheon Francais*, pafsed a decree, in which they declared that they would vote in any mode they liked, and if any individual of their section fhould be summoned to the bar, all the citizens of it would repair under arms to the Convention. The Commons of Pari he added, had usurped the administration of the hospitals, and even that of the Bicetre, which did not belong to its district. After entering into a variety of details the minister gave a fhort view of Paris in the following exprefsive words:

'A wise but too feeble department; Commons *active*, but *despotic*; people *excellent* but *deceived*; confusion of powers; abuse and contempt of constituted authorities; public force of little avail, owing to its being badly commanded.'

Roland was of opinion that the National Convention, by too long delaying to pursue vigorous measures, had given rise to all those disorders which had happened at Paris. With regard to the thirty prisoners, supposed to be emigrants, they were all except two really foreigners. — Germans, Prussians, Austrians, *&c.* He also stated, that some desperate men wished to renew the horrid scenes of the 2d and 3d of September. He mentioned a letter which a citizen had written to him on the subject: it was signed *Granin*, and the signature was certified by several public officers well known. Granin, in this letter, informed the minister, that he had heard a man belonging to the section of Marseilles, a member of the Club *des Cordeliers*, whom he did not name, but whose name he said, he could procure in two days, say, that *another bleeding, but more copious, was necessary; that it would take place in a few days; that the factions of Roland and Brissot must perish; that they must be annihilated in France; and that Roberspierre alone ought to remain.*

The members on all sides called out, that the memorial, and the pieces which accompanied it, ought to be printed. This, however, was violently opposed.

Roberspierre rose to speak, but it was a long time before he could make himself be heard. He complained with the greatest warmth of the hooting and noise which prevented him from speaking. 'Shall I not then have the right (said he,) of telling you that the reports which you from time to time hear, are insidiously directed to one end, *that of oppressing the* PATRIOTS. ("THE VILLAINS!" exclaimed some members. The tumult and noise were here redoubled.)

'If the president (resumed Roberspierre) employs the most specious pretences.'—

President—"I forgive you one calumny more."

The tumult was again renewed.

Danton—"Speak Roberspierre, good citizens are present to hear you.

Merlin—"If any thing can unmask intrigue, it is the memorial of Roland. I move that it be printed; and let a *forum* be established, on which Roberspierre, and those who attack it, may appear, and act the part of gladiators.

Roberspierre—"I request that the Convention will fix a day for difscufsing the different subjects contained in the memorial of this minister. A member of the afsembly has promised to bring an accusation against me. I request that he may keep his promise, but at the same time that I may be permitted to reply, and that I may not be interrupted."

Danton—"It is time to put an end to mistrust, and that the guilty fhould be punifhed as soon as they are discovered. I declare to the Convention, to the whole Republic, that I detest Marat. I have experienced his temper, and I declare that it is *volcanic*, peevifh, and unsociable; but there exists no faction, nor can any exist in a republican state. I will not deny that private revenge may have had a fhare in the mafsacres committed at the prisons, but it is absolutely false that these murders were in consequence of any plot. I move that the difcufsion of this melancholy subject may be adjourned till Monday."

After a long and violent debate, the Convention decreed, that the memorial only fhould be printed.

Louvet—"I request silence, that I may be enabled to unveil the deepest plots. I have narrowly watched the conduct of Roberspierre, especially since the month of January last. During that month, a set of people were admitted into the Jacobin Club, who had never been seen there before. These people formed a system of ambition, which they concealed under the mask of extravagant popularity, and they endeavoured to calumniate the best patriots, and to render them odious by the speeches which they delivered in the club. These men wifhed to afscribe to themselves the whole honour of the Revolution of the 10th of August, though it was not accomplifhed by them. It was they who planned and directed the execution of those dreadful scenes which made the streets of Paris run with blood during the first week of September, and which still excite horror in the most distant Departments. It was they who despised, and vilified, and persecuted the Legislative Afsembly. It was they who came to the bar to demand decrees, and who threatened they would cause the alarm bell to be sounded in Paris if their request was refused. It was Roberspierre who introduced into the Electorate Afsembly of Paris, that Marat, whose name I cannot pronounce without hor-

for. It was Roberspierre that dragged that monster from the den in which he was concealed, into public notice. It was Roberspierre and Marat, who polluted with frightful bills all the walls of the capital; and when the latter excited the people to maſsacre all the ministers, he excepted none but Danton, who will find it a difficult matter, on account of this exception, to justify himself in the eye of posterity. It was these men who were the authors of that dreadful consternation into which Paris was thrown for so long time. It was they who came to request that the people might be prevented from committing murders.—Heavens! prayers were vain: and when a mother supplicated for the life of a beloved son—a wife for that of a fond husband, both were inhumanly butchered. These bloody men wiſhed to satiate their cruel eyes with the ſhocking spectacle of 28,000 bodies sacrificed to their fury! Roberspierre I accuse you of having long calumniated the best patriots,---calumniated them when your calumnies were sentences of death. I accuse you of having dispersed and persecuted the Legislative Aſsembly; of having exhibited yourself as an object of idolatry; of having aimed at supreme power,---and in this accusation your own conduct will speak more strongly than my words.

"Citizens, Legislators, there is another man among you whom we must denounce. It is Marat, since I must here addreſs him by his name; that man who declared to you that he wiſhed to see 260,000 heads fall at his feet. I move that you will paſs a decree of accusation against him; and that you will order your Committee of Legislation to examine the conduct of Roberspierre."

This speech was ordered to be printed.

M. Lacroix having observed that the Committee of Legislation were employed on different accusations against Marat, the Convention proceeded to the order of the day.

Roberspierre having requested that the Convention would allow him till Mouday to prepare to answer to the charges made against him, his request was granted.

The Sitting rose at five o'clock in the evening.

Roberspierre was ordered to give in his defence on Monday, which he did. After hearing which, on the motion of Barrere, they adopted this singular decree:

"The National Convention considering that it ſhould only occupy itself with the interests

of the Republic, passes to the order of the day, on the accusation of Roberspierre by Louvet."

A jealousy seems to prevail very generally in France against the Parisians, who, they suppose, have a desire to assume the powers of government to themselves, of which the following facts are sufficient documents:

Oct. 25. Addresses were presented from the Society of the Friends of Liberty and Equality of the city of Auxerre, the Commons of Brive, and the Administrators of the district of Liseux, complaining of the inordinate power assumed by the Parisians, and requesting that a guard from the Eighty-three Departments might be appointed for the protection of the Convention.

Nov. 5. Bishop Fauchet read on this subject a memorial, which paints the deplorable state of the French nation at present:

"Since the 10th of August," said the bishop, "a kind of regency, like those of Algiers and Tripoli, has been established at Paris. The petty horde of daring villains sent emissaries and robbers into the Departments to plunder them, and give them up to all the horrors of anarchy. At Sens, they succeeded in their perfidious designs;—they preached up murder, and the blood of the citizens was shed;—they preached up contempt of constituted authorities, and the magistrates ceased to have power;—they preached up hatred of the National Assembly and the Executive Council, from whom they derived their power, and the Commons of Paris were proclaimed at Sens *the only power of the Republic.* At Villeneuve-sur-Yonne, they preached up the sovereignty of every individual, in consequence of which a Justice of the Peace was deposed, and a beautiful public building destroyed. At Joigni they imprisoned the President of the district, and deprived all the members of the Directory of their offices. At Auxerre they established a Committee of Safety, like that of the Commons of Paris. They distributed, in great profusion, copies of a journal filled with abuse against the National Convention. One of the individuals who exercised this Sovereignity, is named Dojon, whom the Committee of Safety had ordered to be arrested, because he was accused of having favoured the escape of the *ci-devant* Prince de Poix, and of having stolen a port folio belonging to the State, containing valuable effects. The citizens have, however, begun to treat these emissaries as they deserve, and several of them have been arrested in the department of la Haute-Saone."

Nov. 4. The Federates of the Departments afsembled at Paris, presented a petition.—"Legislators, brought by the dangers of our country to Paris, we come to solicit a decree to put a stop to anarchy and the machinations of the wicked. We desire to participate as brothers, in the labours of the National Guard of Paris; and to join the force of our arms to that of your knowledge. But a set of men, devoted to mafsacre, wifh to disunite us from the people of Paris. We will not speak to you of the reproaches and menaces to which we are daily exposed. Every night we are threatened with being afsafsinated in our quarters; you, too, Legislators, are threatened by the Tribunitian Faction. It is said that we wifh to afsafsinate Louis XVI. of whom we think no more than if he had certainly never existed. It is said, that we want to remove the Convention from Paris, while it is only the anarchists that want to drive you from it, that they may plunder the treasury, and renew the scenes of the 2d September. But let them take care,—we are here; we will enlighten the people, and nothing fhall fkreen the anarchists from the sword of the law. Legislators, we propose to you to ordain a civic festival between us and our brothers of Paris. There all hearts will be united, and the Forty-eight Sections will no longer see in us but brothers and good friends."

Ordered that this addrefs be printed and referred to the Military Committee.

Commifsioners from the sections of Paris petitioned that the Federates might be sent to the frontiers. "It is there," said they, "that these generous citizens may be useful to their country. At Paris, it is only from armed men, that liberty can have any cause of alarm."

The Convention ordered both petitions to be printed.

Tallien.—"Since you have resolved that both petitions fhall be printed, I must declare a fact. The day before yesterday armed men were crying through Paris,—*Long live Roland! No trial of the king.*

Gorsas replied, that yesterday, under the very walls of the Convention, persons were spiriting up the people to mafsacre Lasource, Guadet, Barbaroux, and Louvet. A citizen went to denounce this fact to the Committee of Surveillance, where he was very ill received.

The Convention decreed, that the citizen fhould point out tomorrow at the bar the members of the Committee of Surveil-

lance who had refused to hear him.

Miscellaneous.

By late accounts from the East Indies, we learn, that Tippoo had made the second payment stipulated by the late Convention; and that the combined troops had evacuated Seringapatam and Bangalore, the last of which places the troops left with great regret, as the situation is pleasant and healthy, and the climate more temperate than in most of our poſseſsions in India. Great hopes are entertained, that the acquisition of territory we have lately obtained from him, will turn out to be much more valuable than was at first expected.

The Prince Biſhop of Wurtzburg has not only declined offensive measures against the French, but sent a friendly letter upon the subject to General Custine.

The elector of Mentz, and the Prince Biſhop of Spiers, who were at Wurtzburg, have withdrawn themselves: — The first is gone to Heilegenstadt, and the other to Augſburg.

Three French frigates are cruising off Ostend, to visit all the ſhips coming from or going into that port.

At Prague, there has been an insurrection on account of the privileges granted to the Jews. The populace released one of their body who had been imprisoned for remonstrating too freely with the Magistrates. The Emperor has thought it more adviseable to send Commiſsioners with promises of redreſs, than to attempt quelling the discontent by force.

In consequence of some foreign ſhips of the line having appeared off the Heights of Civita Vecchia, the Pope has iſsued orders to the Commandant of Rome to put it into the best state of defence as soon as poſsible; and has also prohibited the exportation of all sorts of provisions from the Pontifical State.

At this moment Finland is desolating by a putrid fever, which has carried off 5000 persons in the sole diocese of d'Abo.

Domestic.

Letters from Jamaica of the 22d of August, state, that the loſs of sugar, by the late hurricane at St Kitt's, is estimated at 2000 hogſheads.

We hear from the Island of Mull, Argyleſhire, that in the memory of man there has not been a more extraordinary herring fiſhing than has been there this season, particularly in Lochbay, and Lochscridon. —Ten and twelve barrels of a night is common for one boat to fiſh.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12. 1792.

FOREIGN.

France.

SINCE our last, the French armies have been every where succefsful. Brufsels and Antwerp, Namur, Leige, Mentz, Frankfort, have succefsively surrendered to them almost without a blow. The combined armies, it is said, mean to hazard a battle with them in the neighbourhood of Coblentz, where the king of Prufsia at present is; but their attempts to reprefs the French ardour have been hitherto attended with so little succefs, that they seem not to have great hopes of proving victorious at present. The archives, and valuable effects, are every where removing from the frontiers, into the internal parts of Germany.

The French have made a formal demand of the Dutch to open the Scheld, which has been refused. The pretext was, that they might thus get ships of war carried up that river, for the purpose of besieging the citadel of Antwerp. That citadel having since surrendered, the object of this demand no longer exists. It remains to be seen whether they will on that account desist from insisting on it. If they do not, it fhould seem that a war with the Dutch will be inevitable.

In the mean while, wherever the French arms prevail, the generals immediately declare the people to be free; and invite them to make choice of whatever form of government fhall be most agreeable to themselves. The people of Savoy have, in consequence of this option, almost unanimously approved of the French form of government, and have sent a solemn deputation of their members to the National Convention, to request, that they might be made a constituent part of the French republic. Their request has been complied with, and the province of Savoy is now admitted as an 84th department, under the name of the department of Mount Blanc.

The same succefs has not attended their efforts in regard to this particular in other quarters. The people of Brufsels, by a great majority of votes, have declared, that they wifh to adhere to their ancient form of government,

and to preserve their adherence to the Catholic religion inviolate. At Frankfort they have gone farther; for when general Custine, willing to conciliate the good wishes of the lower clafses of the people, imposed a contribution on the town, but exempting every person from contributing any part of this tax who was not worth more than about L. 1500 sterling; and called these people to make choice of the form of government they liked; the lower orders of the citizens, when met together, came to an unanimous resolution of thanking the general for his good intentions towards them; but afsuring him, at the same time, that the form of government they then lived under, was the very best they could devise: that they had from experience felt, that they enjoyed under it every degree of political freedom that they conceived was compatible with good government: that their persons and property were secure from every illegal invasion: that if he had been informed they were desirous of any change, or had any dislike to the higher order of the citizens, he had been deceived: that so far was this from being the case, that they considered their wealthy brethren as their best friends and benefactors: that their money was chiefly laid out in giving employment to the lower clafses of the people, who, without it, would be destitute of their best resources for maintaining their families: and concluded with requesting that their ancient form of government might be preserved inviolate; and that the contribution, whatever it fhould be, that he imposed on that place, fhould be levied in the same way that other taxes had been levied. And praying that the French, under their new form of government, might enjoy an equal fhare of happinefs as they themselves experienced.

While things go on thus swimingly abroad, the internal tranquillity of France is perpetually disturbed by a succefsion of commotions from various quarters. Rolland, the minister of the home department, has given in several reports to the National Afsembly, which represent the state of France in a very bad point of view. This has displeased the Jacobins so much, that he is now proscribed by them, and will probably ere long feel the baneful effects of their fury. The following transaction is among the last articles of intelligence from France, and comes from a quarter that cannot be suspected of exaggeration.

Nov. 30. Lecointre Puyraveaux, one of the three com-

missioners who had been sent into the department of Eure and Loire to quell the riots, made his report in the tribune.

"Yesterday," said he, "your commissioners were between life and death; and perhaps at this moment the city of Chartres is on fire, and to-morrow will be delivered up to pillage, by a mob of twelve or fifteen thousand men.

"On our arrival at Chartres, we were informed by the administrative bodies, of the circumstances of the insurrection. The pretence is the dearness of provisions.

"Yesterday, the 19th, we went to Courville, without arms, with the sole force of reason, thinking we should find men who had been misled, but whom it would be easy to bring back to their duty. But how great was our error? We found men impressed with the most unjust prepossessions against the National Assembly, and ready to shed the blood of three of its members.

"On our arrival at Courville, at about eight in the morning, we conferred with the citizens, who were beginning to assemble, and we augured favourably from their answers. But soon a report was circulated among the people, that we were followed by a considerable armed force, and that we were come to order a general massacre.

"Mean while the crowd increased, and amounted to about 6000 men, armed with guns, scythes, hatchets, *&c.* At our entreaty they repaired to the field of the federation, whither we went also, and, placing ourselves in the middle, we harangued them.

"We were heard at first peaceably, but soon several voices cried out, that we were monopolizers, aristocrats, paid by the farmers, enemies to the people;—our heads were demanded, and the cry of no quarter became general.—My colleagues and myself were seized, separated, and dragged away; I cried out to them that I was a representative of the people; blows then took place of words, and a hatchet—(Here the voice of the orator was lost amidst the expressions of general indignation)—"at the same time the clothes of my colleagues were torn off and thrown into the river—the muzzle of a loaded gun was pressed against my breast.—At that moment a citizen who had already warned me to retire, told the multitude to spare my life, on condition I signed the price of corn as they wished it to be fixed.

"I was in consequence dragged with my colleagues to the corn-market of Courville. We were placed upon the sacks, and were forced to sign the tax of the price of corn;

we ſhould have preferred death. But the ſafety of the State required that we ſhould inform you of theſe facts, that you may put a term to the misfortunes with which all France is threatened.

"They wanted to puniſh us for a motion made in the Aſſembly, for ſuppreſsing the salaries of the priests.

"The Agrarian law was proclaimed.—They cried out that the leaſes of the farms ſhould be reduced to half their preſent price: that the farms ſhould be divided: that the time of *masters* was paſt: and that now the labourers ſhould have their turn.

"They announced that the train would ſpread to Paris, where they ſhould treat as they deſerved, that Convention who are the enemies of the people; who deſtroy the priests, and who wiſh to enrich themſelves alone," *&c.*

Such was in ſubſtance the report of Lecointre, part of which was made in the preſence of his colleagues.

Petion mounted the tribune. "Citizens, ſaid he, the enemies of the country are leading us on to anarchy, and from anarchy to deſpotiſm there is but a ſtep. We have nothing more to fear from our external enemies, and we are tearing ourſelves to pieces with our own hands! Can it be denied that this is the work of the agitators?—Corn is dear in the ſouth, and all is quiet.—Near Paris it is cheap and all is confuſion!

"O you, who inceſſantly degrade the Convention, and the conſtituted authorities, ſay, what is your wiſh?—we have overthrown royalty. You wiſh to be free; but is it by the principles of reaſon, or thoſe of barbarity, that you think to be ſo?"

Petion concluded by moving, that a ſufficient force be employed to repreſs the inſurrections by their preſence, and to ſpare the effuſion of blood.

Danton moved for an addreſs to the people to quiet their minds, relatively to the public worſhip. "The people, ſaid he, have need of this conſolation of hope. The idea of another life is neceſſary to compenſate them for the misfortunes and injuſtice they ſuffer in this.

"Let our deliberations, added he, have a more rapid courſe. Let us diſpatch the trial of the king; we muſt deprive royalty of its laſt hope."

The Convention annulled the price of corn, as ſubſcribed to by the commiſsoners, and diſapproved their ſignature.

The executive council was charged to ſend, without delay, to Chartres, ſufficient armed force to re-eſtabliſh order.

Trial of the king.

The National Convention having come to a resolution that Lewis xvi. ſhould be publicly tried,

Mulhe, on the 7th of November, in name of the Committee of Legislation, delivered in a report respecting the mode that ought to be adopted on that trial, divided into no leſs than fourteen distinct heads, which are too long for our limits; a considerable difference of opinion having appeared in the Convention on this subject, and the arguments becoming so long as to be in danger of interrupting all other buſineſs, the Convention decreed, that this subject ſhould only be taken into consideration upon two days of each week.

Many members have delivered their opinions, several of them moderate, and wiſhing to persuade the Convention from motives of policy, as well as humanity, to avoid ſhedding the blood of the king; while others with violence exclaim that all the misfortunes which threaten to overwhelm the state, are to be attributed to their culpable delay in not cutting him off. Nothing has yet been decidedly determined.

In the mean while the king is closely confined, and exposed to every species of indignity, if the public accounts may be credited. He is said also, to be in a state of bad health; so that there is a probability that death may relieve him soon from his troubles, and free them from the unpleasing dilemma in which they stand. The queen is also in a bad state of health.

Westerman, adjutant-general of the Belgian army, tranſmitted to the Convention some information respecting the state of the army. By these accounts it appears, that that 22,000 men had set out to reinforce the 28,000 under general Valence, who are besieging the citadel of Namur: that a column of the enemy's troops, consisting of 15000 men, were marching to relieve the garrison: that the first fort was taken: that the French military chest was entirely exhausted; and that on the 26th ult. it contained only ten livres: that the ancient Belgic States, in concert with the clergy, were endeavouring to excite an insurrection: that the Belgian patriots had promised a loan of 30 or 40,000 millions of florins: but that it would require time to raise it: and lastly, the army was in such distreſs for want of money, that it could not long remain in its present situation.

Miscellaneous.

Nov. 20. Yesterday morning the princeſs royal of Denmark

was safely delivered of a daughter.

The famous prince de Kaunitz is dead at Vienna, at the age of 80.

Quarrels between the Russian and Polish soldiers are of late more frequent than ever.

The duke of Saxe Teschen is very ill at Bonn.

General Montesquiou has not emigrated, as was supposed. He left his army in order to appear at the bar of the Convention. To dissipate the suspicions that had been formed against him, he has published a long letter in Paris in his justification.

DOMESTIC.

The administration of this country have suddenly taken the alarm, occasioned by circumstances which yet require to be explained. The militia of several counties of England have been ordered to be embodied; and parliament has been suddenly summoned to meet on Thursday the 13th instant. Frequent cabinet councils have been held of late; many ships ordered into commission; troops marched from one place to another; the tower of London suddenly ordered to be put into the best state of defence; the guards at the bank doubled; the streets in the neighbourhood of the Tower broke up and barricaded; houses of rendezvous opened for seamen; and a press talked of. In short, things wear at present every appearance of war both foreign and domestic. A short time will probably serve to explain the causes of these mysterious proceedings.

In the mean time, associations are going forward for reform; and counter associations, for preserving the constitution. Magistrates, and public bodies of men, are in active exertions to preserve the public peace, and discourage seditious writings. It does not appear as yet evident to us, that there is good reason for these alarms.

Edin. Nov. 27. The lord provost, magistrates, and council of this city, came to the unanimous resolution, of employing the most eminent engineers to make a survey and report, as to the practicability of executing a canal from the west country to bring coals and other articles, which there abound at a cheap rate, to this city.

The trustees for rebuilding the college here, have received from the right honourable Henry Dundas, a list of subscriptions at *Bombay*, amounting to 5700 Bombay rupees, with bills of exchange, transmitted to him by P. Crawford Bruce.

Died the 29th November last Sir David Dalrymple of Hailes, baronet, one of the senators of the College of Justice.

Seven indictments for libel, at the instance of the king, against the authors and publiſhers of works complained of by the Attorny General, were found by the Grand Jury on 28th November.

The officers and privates of the London militia are ordered to hold themselves in readineſs, upon a ſhort notice, to be under arms, if neceſsary, for the ſuppreſsion of riots and tumults.

On Friday last, the 23d ult. a small boat with two men, David Clarke and Thomas Wiſhart, was overset by a sudden swell of the sea, when employed in the lobster fiſhing, among the rocks which run out from Fife's Nep. Wiſhart stuck by the boat, and after being about two hours in the water, he was providentially picked up; by proper care he was soon perfectly recovered. Clarke swam for a quarter of an hour upon an oar, but being at length exhausted, he went down, and has not yet been found.—For some time he drifted near the boat, and spake frequently to Wiſhart, who could give him no aſsistance. He has left a widow, with three young children, in a destitute situation.

The scarcity of coal is very distreſsing to the inhabitants of Edinburgh and Glasgow; and the advanced price is severely felt by the lower ranks as well as by the manufacturers. It is fortunate, however, the remedy is so easy as cutting a canal to a country abounding with coal, and nearly in a line between the two cities. In many parts of Lanarkſhire, coal is wrought for from one ſhilling to fifteenpence a ton. The cheapneſs of water carriage, and the high price of the cart of coals at Edinburgh and Glasgow, containing only twelve hundred weight, are generally known. And if this navigation is not immediately agreed upon, high as coal now is, there is perhaps too much reason to fear another advance may take place, and that sooner than some people apprehend.

The subscription for the Argyleſhire canal is now more than full.

On the 4th curt. four houses of rendezvous were opened at London for entering sailors; two of the houses are on Tower hill, and two in Wapping.

Contracts have been entered into at the War Office, for draught horses for the artillery in London and its environs.

That part of the books and papers of the Ordnance Office,

which have been at the duke of Richmond's house in Privy Gardens, have been removed to the office in the Tower.

General Medows is come home paſsenger in the Dutton, and several other officers, who all landed at Dover.

Newcastle, Dec. 8. Tuesday night, a strong gale of wind prevailed in this town and neighbourhood, by which several stacks of chimnies were blown down, and other material damage done. By the same gale, one of the pinnacles of that beautiful structure, St Nicholas church steeple, was blown down.

All the forts on the coast are ordered to be put into a proper state of defence; Tynemouth barracks are included; and several men are now employed in the neceſsary repairs.

A letter, dated Barcelona, 3d November curt. from captain Robert Oliphant of the Favourite, belonging to Kirkcaldy, mentions, that on the 26th October last, he was boarded by an Algerine frigate, and after they were close up with him, they hoisted their colours and fired a ſhot, which luckily paſsed over them. After coming alongside, Captain Oliphant was ordered up and strictly examined, and they ordered four hands to hold the captain, while two others with ropes severely beat him and used him in a most ſhameful manner, without any provocation, and then let him go.

Ten ſhares of Carron Company stock were lately sold here for L. 2010, which is a strong proof of the present flouriſhing state of that Company.

On the 10th ult, at Loch Rannach, Perthſhire, there were felt three repeated smart ſhocks of an earthquake, accompanied with a rumbling noise, like that of distant thunder.

The Consols *ſhut* yesterday, Dec 7. and though a great number of people were getting out their Stock, the price was well kept up. Towards the close they declined a little; but upon the whole, the market was more firm than it has been for some time past.

A meeting of the merchants has been held at Liverpool, in which several resolutions were paſsed against *monoply*, exercised by the East India Company; and a petition is to be presented in parliament, to consider the *whole* of the subject; and that the Liverpool people may be heard by counsel, against the renewal of the Company's Charter.

Dec. 11. The General Convention of the delegates from all the different societies of the Friends of the People, was held in Edinburgh.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

Wednesday, December 26. 1792.

Foreign.

France.

Trial of the king.

The principal businefs that has occupied the attention of the French National Convention since our last, has been the trial of the king. After many long and tumultuous debates, it was at length decreed that he fhould be brought to the bar of that afsembly on the 11th of December, to answer to such interrogatories as fhould be put to him. Having been accordingly put to the bar, about twelve o'clock that day, he there underwent a long examination. The questions put to him related chiefly to his having supplied the emigrant princes with money; refusing to sanction the decrees of the National Afsembly; leaving the country destitute of the means of defence; and employing the Swifs guards for the purpose of establifhing his own authority, independent of the other constituted authorities of the state.

The king was calm, collected, unembarrafsed. He answered every question without hesitation, as it was put. Sometimes he said he acted as the law had authorised him; to others he said the accusation was false, and the evidence produced, forgeries. With regard to others, the blame he alleged lay not with him, but with the ministers under whose department it fell. On the whole, seldom has an accused person appeared at the bar of a court of justice, who acted with more dignity or propriety than Lewis xvi; for his conduct was equally free from insolence as meannefs, and was neither petulant nor timid; but cool, grave, and guarded, though open, and seemingly candid.

By the queries put to him, it would seem that the accusations they have to bring against him are of a nature much lefs serious than was expected; and the proofs alluded to, seem to be much lefs decisive than was in general supposed. The publication of these proceedings has produced a great change on the mind of the public respecting him, even in France.

He was permitted to sit during this examination, and he concluded by afking leave to have counsel to afsist him in preparing his defence, which was granted. He made choice of Tronchet and Target.

The first declined to accept on account of his age and infirmities. Several others offered their services, particularly *M. Lamoignon de Malasherbes*, a man of 78 years of age, being ready, he said, "to devote himself in his defence;" and finally, these two were appointed to discharge that honourable though dangerous duty. *M. de Seze*, a celebrated advocate of Bourdeaux, was afterwards joined to them as a third counsel.

The progress of the French arms has not been so great of late as formerly. The Austrians retook Franckfort after a pretty smart engagement, in which a great number of French were killed, and taken prisoners; and a report prevails that *Custine* had been defeated with a great slaughter, and himself taken prisoner: But this wants confirmation. It seems however to be undeniable, that the French troops are at present in great want of the most necessary articles of subsistence, and are nearly in the state that Shakespeare describes; "sans stockings, sans shoes, sans bread, sans every thing." Dumourier writes to the National Convention, "That if he had not by great accident captured two boats laden with oats upon the Scheldt, his cavalry must have perished for want of forage. He complains of the minister of war for not providing supplies; and the minister of war exculpates himself by throwing the blame on the commissary of stores. All that can be known with certainty is, that the army is in a state of miserable suffering.

The diet of Ratisbon have at length consented to put their forces on the war establishment, with a view to act with vigour against the French in the spring.

A report prevails that France and Spain have concluded a treaty offensive and defensive. This news comes by the way of Lisbon, but wants confirmation.

Domestic.

House of Lords.

Their lordships assembled on Thursday Dec. 13th, in obedience to the royal proclamation; and, at half past two, his majesty being seated on the throne, Sir Francis Molyneux was sent to demand the attendance of the commons; when the speaker of that house, and several members, appearing at the bar, his majesty was pleased to deliver the following most gracious speech.

" *My Lords and Gentlemen*,

" Having judged it necessary to embody a part of the militia of this kingdom, I have, in pursuance of the provisions of the law, called you together within the time limited for that purpose: and it is on

every account, a great satisfaction to me to meet you in parliament at this conjuncture.

"I should have been happy if I could have announced to you the secure and undisturbed continuance of all the blessings which my subjects have derived from a state of tranquillity; but events have recently occurred, which require our united vigilance and exertion, in order to preserve the advantages which we have hitherto enjoyed.

"The seditious practices which had been, in a great measure, checked by your firm and explicit declaration in the last session, and by the general concurrence of my people in the same sentiments, have of late been more openly renewed, and with increased activity.

"A spirit of tumult and disorder (the natural consequence of such practices) has shewn itself in acts of riot and insurrection, which required the interposition of a military force in support of the civil magistrate: the industry employed to excite discontent on various pretexts, in different parts of the kingdom, has appeared to proceed from a design to attempt the destruction of our happy constitution, and the subversion of all order and government; and this design has evidently been pursued in connection and concert with persons in foreign countries.

"I have carefully observed a strict neutrality in the present war on the continent, and have uniformly abstained from any interference with respect to the internal affairs of France; but it is impossible for me to see, without the most serious uneasiness, the strong and increasing indications which have appeared there, of an intention to excite disturbances in other countries, to disregard the rights of neutral nations, and to pursue views of conquest and aggrandizement, as well as to adopt, towards my allies the States General, who have observed the same neutrality with myself, measures which are neither conformable to the law of nations, nor to the positive stipulations of existing treaties. Under all these circumstances, I have felt it my indispensible duty to have recourse to those means of prevention, and internal defence, with which I am intrusted by law: and I have also thought it right to take steps for making some augmentation of my naval and military force; being persuaded that these exertions are necessary in the present state of affairs, and are best calculated both to maintain internal tranquillity, and to render a firm and temperate conduct effectual for preserving the blessings of peace.

"Nothing will be neglected on my part that can contribute to that important object, consistently with the security of

my kingdoms, and with the faithful performance of engagements which we are bound equally by interest and honour to fulfil.

" *Gentlemen of the house of Commons,*

" I have ordered the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you, and I have no doubt that you will be ready to make a due provision for the several branches of the public service.

" You will certainly join with me in lamenting any necessity for extraordinary expences, which may for a time prevent either the application of additional sums beyond those which are already annually appropriated to the reduction of the public debt, or retard the relief which my subjects might have derived from a farther diminution of taxes.

" But I am confident you will feel, that those great ends will ultimately be best promoted by such exertions as are necessary for our present and future safety and tranquillity.

" And it is a great consolation to me to reflect, that you will find ample resources for effectually defraying the expence of vigorous preparations, from the excess of the actual revenue beyond the ordinary expenditure.

" *My Lords and Gentlemen,*

" I have great pleasure in acquainting you, that the brilliant successes of the British arms in India, under the able conduct of the marquis Cornwallis, have led to the termination of the war, by an advantageous and honourable peace, the terms of which are peculiarly satisfactory to me, from their tendency to secure the future tranquillity of the British dominions in that part of the world.

" Your attention will now naturally be directed to the taking such measures for the future government of those valuable possessions, as shall appear, from experience and full consideration, most likely to provide for their internal prosperity, and to secure the important advantages which may be derived from thence to the commerce and revenue of this country.

" I am persuaded that it will be the object of your immediate consideration, to adopt such measures as may be necessary, under the present circumstances, for enforcing obedience to the laws, and for repressing every attempt to disturb the peace and tranquillity of these kingdoms.

" You will be sensible how much depends on the result of your deliberations; and your uniform conduct is the best pledge that nothing will be wanting on your part which can contribute to the present security and permanent advantage of the country.

I retain a deep and unalterable sense of the repeated proofs which I have received of your cordial and affectionate attachment to me; and I place an entire reliance on the continuance of those sentiments, as well as on your firm determination to defend and maintain that constitution which has so long protected the liberties, and promoted the happineſs of every claſs of my subjects.

"In endeavouring to preserve, and to transmit to posterity, the inestimable bleſsings, which, under the favour of providence, you have yourselves experienced, you may be aſsured of my zealous and cordial co-operation; and our joint efforts will, I doubt not, be rendered completely effectual, by the decided support of a free and loyal people."

After the king's speech the addreſs was moved in the house of peers by lord Hardwicke and and seconded by lord Walsingham. Lord Grenville for, and and the marquis of Lansdowne against the addreſs, were the principal speakers; lord Stormont and lord Rawdon concurred with the addreſs.

In the house of commons the addreſs was moved by the lord mayor of London, and seconded by Mr Wallace. Mr Fox opposed it with great energy, and moved an amendment. Mr Grey, Mr Sheridan, and Mr Erskine spoke in favour of it; but leſs warmly than usual in questions of this sort. The principal speakers for the addreſs were Mr Wyndham, Mr Dundas; against it Mr Fox, Mr Sheridan, Mr Grey. For the amendment 50, against it 290; majority 240.

The other buſineſs in parliament has been of leſs importance; unleſs that on Dec. 20th, when a report from the committee of supply was brought up, by which 28,000 seamen were voted, Mr Burke, Mr Fox, and Mr Sheridan agreed in thinking the navy was of so much consequence in the present situation of affairs that they all declared if 40,000 men had been thought neceſsary they would have readily agreed to it. Mr Fox seems to be so much affected with the perilous state in which the king of France now is circumstanced, and so anxious to save the people of France from being guilty of an atrocity of conduct, that would do much injury to the cause in which they have engaged, that he suggested to the minister the propriety of bringing forward some motion that might convince the French, by the perfect unanimity of that house, that this nation would not look on with indifference.

Dec. 20th, The chancellor of the exchecquer, in conformity with what had recently paſsed on this subject, moved, "That an addreſs be presented to his majesty, requesting copies and extracts of the instructions tran-

mitted to lord Gower, at Paris, *&c.* should be laid before the house," which was ordered *nem. con.*

Since the meeting of parliament a strong spirit has displayed itself through all parts of the country towards discouraging those associations, chiefly among the lower classes of men, which had become very general for the purpose of forcing a reform, and propagating notions respecting government, that the sober class of citizens have thought had a tendency to excite seditious discontents. The newspapers are now filled with loyal and constitutional resolves, in which the parties bind themselves, with their persons and fortune, to support the executive power in suppressing all riotous proceedings, and discouraging seditious publications of every sort. Mr Grey made a motion in the house of commons, levelled at these associations, in which he alleged that the same attention was not bestowed in preserving a due subordination to the laws among bodies of this description of men, as with regard to those associations which assumed to themselves the name of *friends of the people.* The motion was overruled; but it is to be wished that a due attention may be bestowed to prevent any excesses originating from this cause.

Trial of Thomas Payne.

This long expected trial came on at Guild hall on Tuesday Dec. 18. Thomas Payne was accused of having written and published a certain seditious book, under the title of *the second part of the rights of man*, &c.

The attorney general, in support of the prosecution, read several excerpts from this work, on which he commented, endeavouring to show as he went along that they were of a seditious tendency, being calculated merely to betray the ignorant into a belief that the people are under the rule of a set of tyrants, and that they are little better than slaves groaning under the severest oppression.

Mr Erskine, with his usual ingenuity, rose in defence of Mr Payne; but on this occasion it was very observable that he spoke with a much greater degree of caution than is usual with him. He took care in particular to state, very clearly, that in this defence, he acted merely in the course of business. His arguments were ingenious; but did not convince the jury; who stopped the attorney general when he began to make a reply, the foreman of the jury politely telling him, that he was instructed by his brethren to inform him that they were satisfied. Verdict *guilty.*

The consequences of this verdict will be in some future time made known to the public.

Scotland.

Besides the general reform in parliament, and a reform with respect to the royal burroughs, there is another reform in agitation at present in Scotland, that is more likely to obtain the general approbation of the country, and the sanction of parliament than either of the others.

For many years past a practice has prevailed, which was at last becoming very general, for men of great landed property to give *temporary* dispositions to the superiority of certain lands, belonging of right to themselves, to such persons as they knew to be well affected towards them, by which means a man of large landed property, who can by law have only a right to give one vote in any county of Scotland, for a member to serve in parliament, acquired the command of a great number of votes; which many persons believed gave these great men an undue influence in the county. The votes thus acquired, as they give no real poſseſsion, have been called *nominal and fictitious* votes. Many law suits have been instituted with a view to set these aside; but the decisions of the courts in Scotland have uniformly tended to sustain them, until of late that a decision of the house of peers threw the validity of these votes into doubt. Since that time the general sense of the people in this country seems to accord with that decision; and meetings of delegates, from all the counties of Scotland, have of late been held in Edinburgh, to devise a law by which this evil may be best remedied, without making any hurtful encroachment on the constitution. The proceedings of this body have been regular and temperate; and, with a commendable caution, they have resolved to submit every proposition to the deliberate consideration of the public at large, allowing due time for reflection, before they adopt any resolution. The progreſs in this case is slow; but it appears to be the only rational plan by which the real sense of the country can be obtained, and therefore may be deemed the wisest and most constitutional mode of proceeding. When they have agreed as to the leading propositions, these will then be submitted to the consideration of parliament. At some future period the conclusions adopted in this case ſhall be communicated to our readers.

In consequence of the uncommon demand for operative hands in every department of busineſs, in the present flou-

rifhing state of this country, combinations have become very general of late among different clafses of this discription of persons, to abstain from work, until their employers fhould agree to augment their wages. In many cases this has been productive of the desired effect, and a rise of price has been the necefsary consequence. But in no case has the effects of these combinations been more severely felt than that which respects coalliers. This description of men by being able to earn much higher wages than others of their own rank, can afford to lie idle, without experiencing the effects of want, much longer than others. They have of late exercised this power to the utmost, in the coal works around this place; in consequence of which the quantity of coal raised has been so much fhort of the usual demand, that the price of this necefsary article has started in a few months from five pence the hundred weight, its usual selling price, to one fhilling, which subjects the poor of this place to very great inconvenience.

The magistrates of Edinburgh on this occasion have exerted themselves to alleviate this evil in a manner that merits the warmest approbation of the public. They grant a considerable bounty on all coals imported into Leith, and grant other indulgences tending to moderate the price. But the vefsels freighted to bring coals *within the frith*, where only they can pafs, duty free, are detained so long before they can be loaded, as to counteract the beneficent purposes of the magistrates. The only effectual remedy seems to be to obtain a repeal of the the coal duty, which alone can open a free intercourse between this place and Newcastle and Sunderland.

We hear a very rich seam of coal was lately discovered at St Catharine's within three miles of Edinburgh.—The petroleum of the famous balm well ifsued from this coal.

TO OUR READERS.

As there are now considerable arrears due for this work, especially by persons at a distance, the Editor requests the favour of his subscribers to make remittances when opportunities offer. The sums due by each individual must appear very trifling to them; but when many small sums are added together, the amount becomes considerable, and of some consequence to the Editor. Few will imagine that the arrears due on this work could be greatly above a thousand pounds.

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